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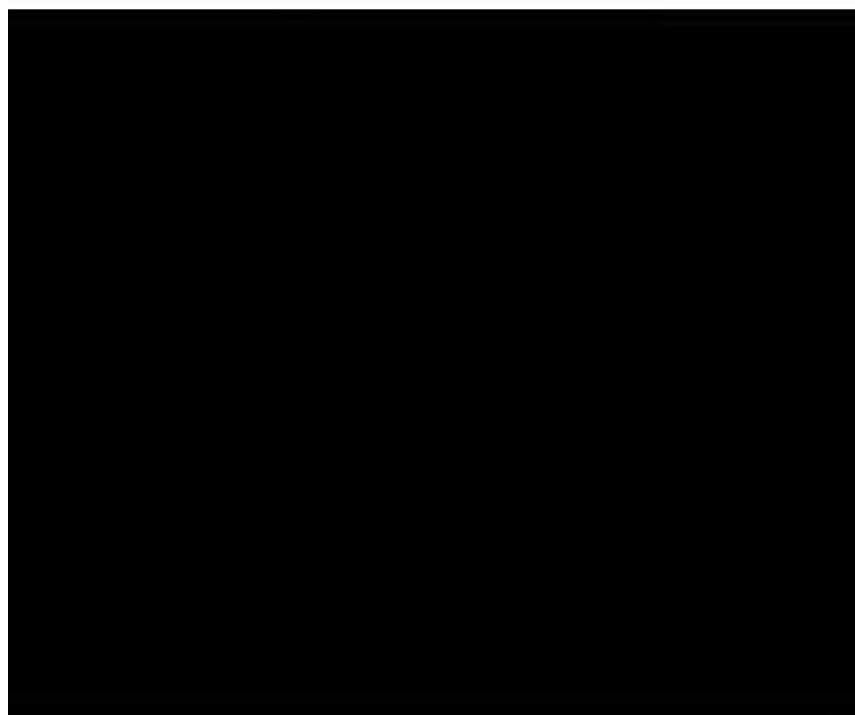






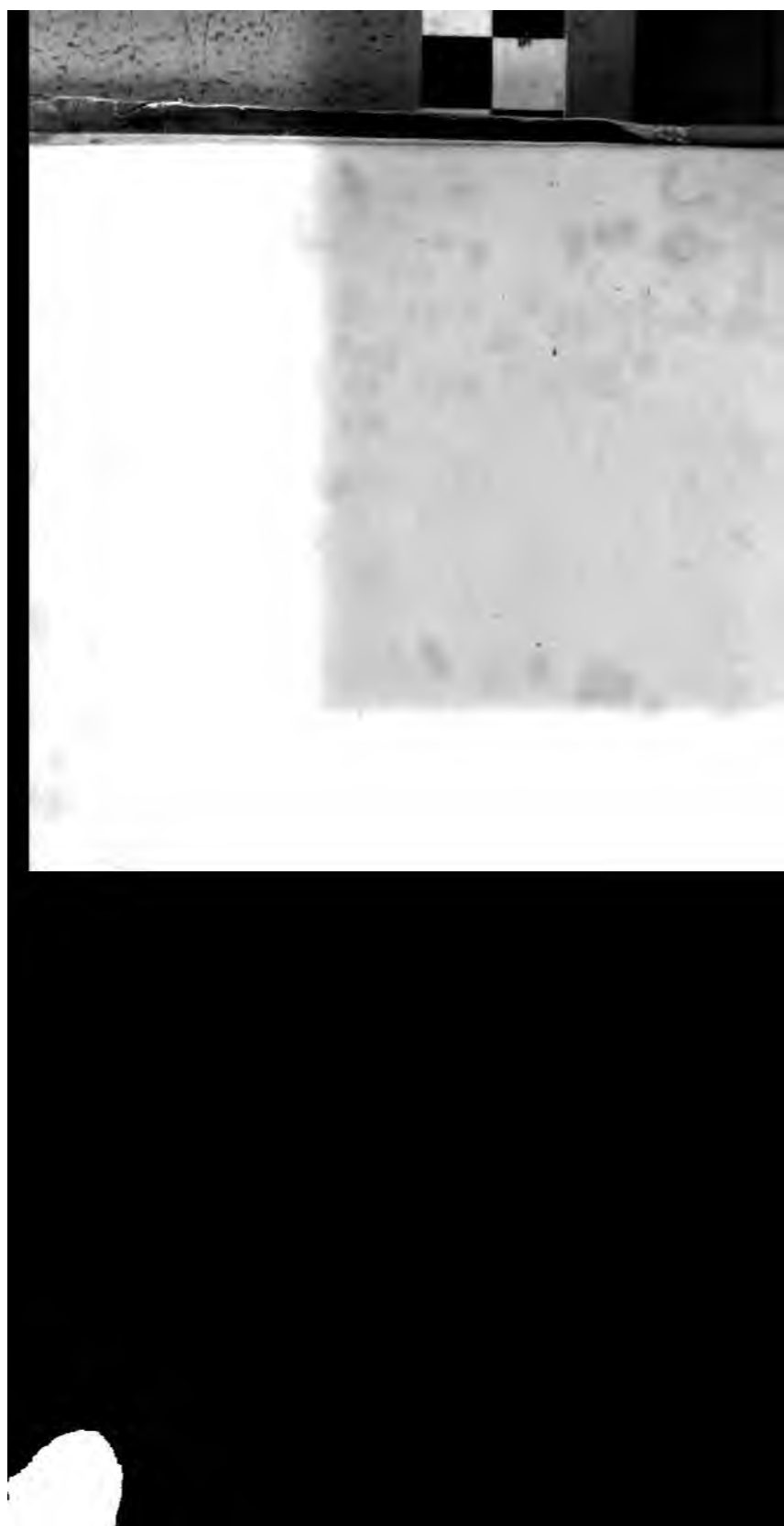
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THE  
*Beauties*  
 of  
**ENGLAND AND WALES ;**  
 OR  
*DELINEATIONS*  
 TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL,  
 and  
 DESCRIPTIVE.  
 Vol. IX.



*A Roman Altar at Langstater.*  
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BEAUTIES  
OF  
*England and Wales;*  
OR,  
**ORIGINAL DELINEATIONS,**  
TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, AND DESCRIPTIVE,  
OF  
EACH COUNTY.

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EMBELLISHED WITH ENGRAVINGS.

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BY  
JOHN BRITTON, F. S. A.

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VOL. IX.

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Britannia, hail! hail, happy isle!  
Where joys inhabit, pleasures smile;  
Great nurse of heroes, seat of charms;  
Supreme in arts, and first in arms.

Trade, arts, and science, flourish here,  
And bless each fair revolving year:  
Gay-smiling plenty reigns around,  
And golden harvests load the ground.

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LONDON:

*Printed by Thomas Maiden, Sherburn-Lane,*  
FOR VERNOR, HOOD & SHARPE; LONGMAN, HURST, REES, & ORME;  
CUTHELL & MARTIN; W. J. & J. RICHARDSON;  
J. AND A. ARCH; J. HARRIS;  
AND E. CROSSBY.

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1807.

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## INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS

To the Ninth Volume of the

### BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

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**T**HIS being the first Volume that has appeared with my name individually, I deem it necessary to apprise the reader of a few particulars respecting it; and I am impelled to this, from the questions that have been addressed to me, both verbally and by letter. The first six volumes have been jointly executed by Mr. Brayley and myself; and it is but justice to state, that the greatest portion of their literary composition was from the pen of that gentleman, who, with much care and exertion, endeavoured to render them accurate and original. The principal travelling, correspondence, labour of accumulating books, documents, direction of draughtsmen, engravers, and some other necessary vocations, devolved on me; and I felt it a pleasure and duty to prosecute my task with zeal and assiduity. At the close of the sixth volume it was deemed expedient that each of us should undertake to write and conduct a volume alternately; and, by arrangement, the counties of Hertford, Huntingdon, and Kent, devolved on Mr. Brayley; whilst Lancashire, Leicestershire, and Lincolnshire, came under my direction. It now remains for me to explain how I have executed these; what assistance has been derived from correspondence, &c. and, indeed, what are the differences between the subsequent topographical histories, and such as have been previously published. It has long been a maxim with me, that the writer and reader should perfectly understand each other; that there should be no reserve or ambiguity in the former, nor suspicion or doubt with the latter. A mutual cordiality and confidence should exist, and then the one would pursue his labours with comfort and pleasure to himself, whilst the other would read with additional advantage and delight: besides, in an extensive work like the present, the Author must

VOL. IX. a calculate

calculate on the communications of intelligent Correspondents; who will not be likely to write *freely* and *fully*, unless they feel confident that their favours will be properly appreciated and applied.

**LANCASHIRE.** The following topographical account of this county, though necessarily concise to a certain degree, is more copious and circumstantial than will be found in any other publication: for besides a careful examination, and advantage of every preceding literary work, many particulars were derived from a personal survey, others from the communications of kind and intelligent correspondents, and some from original documents. To the following noblemen and gentlemen I am indebted for many personal civilities, and for much useful information:—

Earl Wilton.\*  
The Earl of Radnor†.  
Sir Richard Clayton, Bart.  
Lady Anne Hamilton.  
John Dent, Esq. M. P.\*  
John Hodson, Esq. M. P.  
John Towneley, Esq.  
R. J. Harper, Esq.  
The Rev. Thomas Starkie.  
George Ormerod, Esq.\*  
Edward Holme, M. D.  
John Pilkington, Esq.  
Matthew Gregson, Esq.  
James Lonsdale, Esq.  
The Rev. John Greswell.

Edward Wilb. Bootle, Esq. M. P.  
John Blackburne, Esq. M. P.  
William Roscoe, Esq.  
John Dalton, Esq.  
The Rev. Dr. Whitaker.  
Holland Watson, Esq.  
John Forster, Esq.\* and the  
Corporation of Liverpool.\*  
James H. Markland, Esq.  
Joseph Allen, Esq.  
Samuel Oldknow, Esq.  
Joseph Gandy, Esq. A. R. A.  
Mr. Geo. Bullock.  
Mr. William Close, and  
Mr. William Ford.

**LEICESTERSHIRE.** The Topography and Antiquities of this County, having been very fully and minutely narrated by Mr. J. NICHOLS,

\* To each of those gentlemen whose names are accompanied by an asterisk, I am obliged for the *presentation of a Plate* to this work.

† At the time this account was written, the Author heard, with sentiments of sincere sorrow and regret, of the death of *Lord Bolton*, who had manifested much kindness and unaffected civility to him, both with respect to this County, to Hampshire, and some other places.



NICHOLS, I found that a careful abridgement of, and selection from his vast stores, would be nearly all that could be done for this district. I thought it my duty, however, to offer a few original remarks and criticisms, whenever opportunities presented themselves: some of which will appear in the Biographical Accounts of Robert Burton, Lady Jane Grey, Robert Bakewell, and respecting the Antiquities of Leicester. To Mr. NICHOLS I feel very particularly obliged for the liberality and kindness, as well as for the promptitude he displayed in correcting all the proof-sheets of the county. How very different is this conduct to that of some other Topographers, who being engaged either in the history of a county, or of a certain district, have uncivilly and injudiciously refused to furnish a hint of information; and have also endeavoured to preclude access to other persons, and obstruct the sources of information: absurdly supposing, that if they contributed to render a general Work, like this, accurate and original, they would thereby depreciate and injure their own. This is a most mistaken and illiberal policy; for the quotations and references, made in a popular general Work, (and it has been a practice with the Authors of this to acknowledge every thing) must tend to advertise and promote all others of a more local nature.

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LINCOLNSHIRE. This very extensive County has scarcely been attended to by the general Topographer or Antiquary; and though it contains a City, full of Antiquities, and many towns and places replete with local and general interest, yet these have never been fully or faithfully described. (See note attached to the List of Books). It was my sincere wish, and positive intention to have supplied these deficiencies, in a small degree, and to have furnished the Reader with a condensed rational Account of the County. For this purpose I visited most of its towns and Antiquities, and obtained numerous original communications from many intelligent persons of the County. I also carefully obtained all the published books, and sought original information from some MS. collections. The result of all which would have been given to the Public

To the following Noblemen and Gentlemen I  
my sincere and grateful Thanks for much useful i

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Lord Yarborough.               | Wm. Brand, Esq.    |
| Lord Browlow.                  | The Rev. C. Illing |
| Sir William Earle Welby, Bart. | Rev. P. P. Little  |
| John Rennie, Esq.              | Mr. Espin.         |
| Edmund Turtor, Esq.            | Mr. Brooke.        |
| Charles Tatham, Esq.           | Mr. Wm. Wilson,    |
| George Anderson, Esq.          | Mr. Wm. Sheppar    |
| J. N. Johnson, Esq.            |                    |

July 25, 1808.

J. BRIT  
Tavistock Place, Russel

*This Volume will include (pro tempore) the follo*

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Copped Hall.            | Lediard Tregoze.  |
| Uffington Church.       | Dartmouth Castle. |
| Freshwater Cave.        | Ashton Hall.      |
| Compton Castle.         | Bow and Arrow C   |
| Malmsbury Abbey Church. | * Exchange Build  |
| Ludlow Castle.          | * Lancaster.      |
| Wigmore Castle.         | Exeter Cathedral. |
| Goodrich Castle.        | * Heaton House.   |
| * Down Ampney.          | Vignette. Roman   |

TO  
THE RIGHT HONORABLE  
JACOB PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE,  
EARL OF RADNOR,

VISCOUNT FOLKSTONE, BARON OF LONGFORD,  
AND  
BARON PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE, OF COLESHILL;  
LORD LIEUTENANT OF THE COUNTY OF BERKS,  
AND  
RECORDER OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, &c.

THIS VOLUME  
OF  
TOPOGRAPHICAL DELINEATIONS

OF  
*Lancashire, Leicestershire, and Lincolnshire,*

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

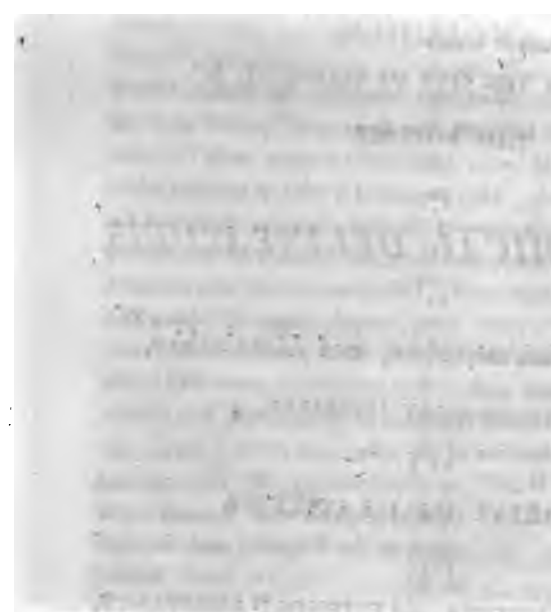
AS A  
MEMORIAL OF GRATITUDE

FOR  
MANY ACTS of KINDNESS, and FRIENDLY ASSISTANCE,  
CONFERRED BY HIM

ON  
HIS OBLIGED HUMBLE SERVANT,

JOHN BRITTON.

*March, 1807.*





THE  
BEAUTIES  
OF  
England and Wales.

---

LANCASHIRE.

AMONG the native tribes that inhabited the British Islands previous to the Roman Invasion, the *Brigantes*,\* according to the concurring testimony of many respectable writers, were the most numerous and powerful. They possessed a tract of country which extended from the south shore of the river Humber to that of the Tyne on the eastern coast, and from the estuary of the Mersey to the Eden on the western coast. This large territory was, however, previously inhabited by some other inferior clans, of whom Ptolemy places in Lancashire the *Setantii*, the *Segantii*,† or *Sistuntii*; for the name is variously spelt. This appellation, according to the interpretation of the learned Historian of Manchester, was expressive of the maritime situation of the tribe, and either “simply signifies the *Country of Water*; or discriminately, the *Interiour and southerly Country of Water*: thereby expressive of the particular position of Lancashire, with respect to the Volantii‡ and the Sea.

A 3

Setanti

\* For some account of this tribe, see *Beauties*, Vol. III. p. 3, 4, &c.

† “This is the reading of the Palatine MS. The anonymous *Ravennas* calls them *Sistuntiaci*, more probably *Seguntiaci*. Vide *Baxter in Voce.*” *Dr. Whitaker.*

‡ This class or tribe of Britons occupied the northern parts of Westmoreland, and all Cumberland; having Volanty, or Elenborough, for their capital. See *Cambrian Register*, Vol. II. p. 14; and *Whitaker's Manchester*, 4to. Vol. I. p. 64.

Setanti must have been the original appellation of the original colonists; and Sistantii, or Sistantii, must have been afterwards conferred on them when new colonists had taken possession of Westmoreland and Cumberland, and when accuracy was obliged to distinguish one from the other.\*

Although very little satisfactory information can be adduced relating to the state of political or civil society, antecedent to the Roman conquest of Britain, yet Mr. Whitaker offers a few conjectural remarks on this subject, which, if not demonstrative, appear rational; and as they have peculiar reference to this county, I shall quote them. "The singular nature of our towns in Lancashire before the entrance of the Romans into it, was the necessary result of that life of hunting and grazing, which is the natural employ of man in the infancy of society, and which, in all the northern regions of the Island, when the arts of agriculture were totally unpractised, was peculiarly the employ of the natives.† The towns of the Britons were not their places of perpetual and general residence; they were only their places of refuge amid the dangers of war, where they might occasionally lodge their wives, their children, and their cattle; and where the weaker might occasionally assist the stronger till succours could arrive. And as, before the Roman Invasion, they had known no other enemies than their Celtic brethren, who, like themselves, were always eager to decide the contest by a battle in the field, neither the one nor the other could be expected to have any considerable skill in the science of fortification. But the Britons certainly possessed a greater

\* Whitaker's Manchester, 4to. Vol. I. p. 7.

† *Cæsar*, by Clark, p. 92. *Cognoscit non longe ex eo loco oppidum Cassivellauni abesse, sylvis paludibusque munitum; quò satis magnus hominum pecorisque numerus convenerit. Oppidum autem Britanni vocant quum sylvas impeditas vallo atque fossâ munierunt—Locum reperit egregiè naturâ atque opere munitum.—P. 87. Se in sylvas abdiderunt, locum nacti egregiè naturâ et opere munitum,—quem—jam ante præparaverant; nam, crebris arboribus succisis, omnes introitus erant præclusi.—See also Strabo, p. 306, Amstel, 1707; and more particularly Dio, p. 237.—Whitaker's Manchester, Vol. I. p. 10.*

greater portion of it than our critics are willing to allow them. Their fortresses were planted in the centre of their woods, were defended by the natural advantages of the site, and were fortified by the felling of trees to obstruct the advance, and, by the formation of a bank and a ditch, to prevent the irruption of an enemy. And they resisted the attacks of the best troops, under the command of the best officers in the world, and even gained from the greatest of the latter, the repeated commendation of excellent fortifications.\*

The Roman invaders of Britain having conquered all, or the greater part, of the inhabitants south of the Mersey, one of their ablest officers, Julius Agricola, appears to have been the first distinguished Roman, who, at the head of a powerful army, entered the district of the *Sistuntii*, about A. D. 79. Having easily subdued these feeble opponents, this magnanimous General immediately resolved to establish forts, and plant garrisons, in several parts of their country. To this commander, and to this era, has Mr. Whitaker referred the first erection of the following Roman stations in this county: "*Ad Alaunani*, and *Bremetonacæ*, in the north; *Portus Sistuntiorum*, in the west; *Rerigonium*, and *Coccium*, about the centre; *Colonea*, on the east; and *Veratinum*, and *Mancunium*, on the south. Some fortresses were absolutely necessary to the maintenance of the Roman conquests, and must always have been regularly erected by the Romans as they extended their conquests. Six of these, in particular, are mentioned by the earliest accounts which we have of the Roman stations in Lancashire; and five of them by one account,† that was drawn up

A 4

about

\* Whitaker's Manchester, Vol. I. p. 4, 5.

† The account here referred to, is that by Richard of Cirencester, a Monk who lived in the fourteenth century; and whose list of Roman Stations, &c. is more copious, and more "circumstantial," than the Geography of Ptolemy, the Itinerary of Antoninus, the Imperial Notitia, and the Anonymous Chorography. To this work Mr. Whitaker attaches almost implicit confidence; but the modern and acute historian

about sixty years only after the reduction of it. Having been five of them originally British fortresses, they were now changed into stationary camps; and small garrisons, consisting principally of the infirm and raw soldiers, were lodged in them; while Agricola, with the rest, attacked the more northerly Britons in the following summer.\* "Thus was the autumn of 79," continues Mr. Whitaker, "the very remarkable epoch of the first erection of our present towns in Lancashire." Though this writer has specified six stations as positively belonging to this County, yet their exact situations are not satisfactorily defined; nor are other antiquaries agreed with respect to this number: for Antoninus, in his Tenth Iter, only marks three, which, with their relative distances, are thus set down in a journey from the north towards the south:

|              |              |                  |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|
| Galacum      | m. p. XIX.   | Westmoreland.    |
| Bremetonaces | m. p. XXVII. | } in Lancashire. |
| Coccium†     | m. p. XX.    |                  |
| Mancunium    | m. p. XVII.  |                  |
| Condate      | m. p. XVII.  | Cheshire.        |

Richard of Cirencester, who is Mr. Whitaker's guide, gives another rout, in the same direction: and Dr. Stukeley affixes the modern names to the places as follows:‡

*Brocavonacia*

of Whalley, questions the Monk's authorities, and observes, that "he was possessed with the general spirit of his profession in the middle ages; something between bold conjecture, and inventive fraud. He laid out new Itinera; he imagined colonies, towns invested with the *Jus Latii*, and others merely stipendiary, long after those distinctions were abolished: he inserted some names, which, though real, were posterior to the Roman empire in *Britannia*, and some which may safely be affirmed to have been fabricated by himself." History of Whalley, p. 15.

\* Whitaker's Manchester, Vol. I. p. 31.

† This Station was invested with the *Jus Latii*, or Latin Privilege, whereby the inhabitants were exempt from the ordinary jurisdiction of the Prætor, and were no longer governed by a foreign Præfect, and a foreign Quæstor, but by a Præfect and Quæstor elected among themselves. Every inhabitant of such towns, who had borne the offices of Prætor or Quæstor, was immediately entitled to the privileges of a Roman citizen. Tacitus Ann. B. xiv. Whitaker's Manchester, Vol. I. p. 243.

‡ "Account of Richard of Cirencester," 4to. 1757, p. 53.



|                          |                            |                                         |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <i>Brocannonis</i>       | xxii.                      | Penrith, Browham.                       |
| <i>Ad Alauna</i>         | - - -                      | Lancaster.                              |
| <i>Coccium</i> — lxxvi — | <i>Latio jure donata</i> , | Bury and Cockley<br>Chapel, Lancashire. |

After the *Stations* were established, it was next, according to the usual system of Roman policy, deemed necessary to open a passable communication between them, by the means of *military roads*. To effect this in a county like Lancashire, required the united powers of labor and skill. The first could be easily obtained from the subjected natives, combined with the veteran engineers; and the latter was a distinguishing characteristic of the Romans. It is rather a singular circumstance, that, although many excellent Roman roads were made in this country, the shape and construction of some of which are easily ascertained at this day, the principle has never been revived till within the last fifty years. In many places, indeed, even now the surveyors of roads either totally disregard the system, or are ignorantly incapable of appreciating its manifest utility. In some parts of Lancashire this is deplorably exemplified; for with much wet, and much travelling, the present turnpike roads, in some places, are generally in a very bad state. As the principal Roman stations of this county must evidently have had intervening *roads*, I shall briefly notice the direction of these, and refer to the accompanying map\* for a more perspicuous delineation of them. From *Mancunium* (Manchester) a road branched off south-easterly towards Stockport; another south-westerly into Cheshire by *Stretford*; a third north-west to Blackrod: and near Pendleton, a vicinal way branched off to Warrington. A fourth communicated directly to *Coccium*, (Ribchester,) and continued thence to *Bremetonacis*, (Overborough.) A fifth diverged north-east towards Halifax; and a sixth more easterly, towards Almon-bury, in Yorkshire. Mr. Leman also imagines that a road communicated almost directly north and south through the centre of the county from Warrington, by Blackrod and Preston, to Lancaster, &c.

Concerning

\* See Map of Lancashire, in the *British Atlas*, No. XII. the Roman roads in which were kindly sketched in by the Rev. Thomas Leman, of Bath.

Concerning the known stations, and principal antiquities, discovered at each, we shall have occasion to treat when describing the parishes where they are situated. The whole of this County, with Yorkshire, &c. was denominated, by the Romans, *Maxima Caesariensis*, or *Briannia Superior*: and by the Saxons, Lancaster was included within the kingdom of *Northumbria*; and, according to the statement of Mr. Whitaker, was "formed into a separate county about 680; and soon after the conquest of it by Egfrid." At this period, continues our shrewd historian, "the Roman Alana received the honor which it retains at present; was made the metropolis of the shire, and lent its own appellation to the county." Soon after this event the county was divided into hundreds, tythings,\* &c. and that part called South Lancashire was first parcelled into three, and subdivided into six just before the Conquest; these were called Blackburn, Derby, and Salford; also Newton, Warrington, and Layland; the three latter being separated from, or taken out of, the others after their original formation. These were all denominated from the towns, or villages, which were constituted the heads of their respective centuries. "And those of Salford, Warrington, and Newton, Blackburn, Derby, and Layland, were so constituted because they belonged to the Crown. All of them, but Newton, continued in its possession

\* Most of our topographers have attributed the subdivision of England into counties, hundreds, &c. to the illustrious Alfred; but Mr. Whitaker boldly asserts, "they are *all mistaken*. The tything, hundred, and county, constituted a part of that original polity which the Saxons brought with them from Germany: and two of them appear existing in Britain, and all three in France, even some ages before the time of Alfred. The tything, and shire, are both mentioned in the laws of the West Saxons before the close of the seventh century, and during the reign of Ina. And the tything, the shire, and the hundred, are noticed in the capitularies of the Franks before the year 630." Vol. I. p. 113. "The hundreds of the Saxons were exactly the same with the cantrefs of the Britons: as the latter consisted of a hundred townships; and the former were composed of ten tythings. These were always considerable districts, and exist to this day the great divisions of our counties." *Ib.* 120.

session as late as the reign of the Confessor. All of them had been retained by the Crown on the general partition of the country, the appointed demesnes of the royalty. And the town of Salford has for this reason been ever independent of the Lord of Manchester, and continues to the present time annexed to the regalities of the Duchy. The whole compass of South Lancashire, which, through all the period of the Britons, probably had contained only two cantrefs, Linuis and another, now inclosed thirty tythings, thirty manors, and three hundred townships. The divison of Salford, the only one of its three hundreds that has not been dismembered, had just ten manors, ten tythings, and a hundred townships, within its present limits. And the custom which is retained among us to this day, of making the hundred responsible for robberies committed betwixt sun and sun, had its commencement at this period, and was a natural appendage to the Saxon system of tythings.\*

The *Ecclesiastical History* of the county commences with the Anglo Saxons; and after the See of York was established, the Kingdom of Northumbria was speedily subdivided into numerous dioceses; and the whole of North Lancashire was connected with that See. But soon after the reduction of Northumbria under the dominion of the West Saxons, and the consolidation of the Seven Kingdoms into one empire, and before the subjection of this to the yoke of the Normans, the south of Lancashire was severed from the diocese and province of York, and was annexed to the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Lichfield; and thus continued to the sixteenth century. The two parts were combined again "in 1541, as they have ever since continued under the dominion of one Bishop, and reunited for ever to their ancient and original province of York. At the first partition of the Bishopric into Archdeaconries, the principal towns of the latter would naturally be constituted the capitals of them; and the Roman colony of Chester was made the metropolis over the south of Lancashire, as the Archdeaconry of Richmond was over the north. And both were moulded together, by Henry the Eighth, into a new and distinct diocese, their revenues being nearly all engrossed by the income of the Bishopric,

\* History of Manchester, Vol. I. p. 221.



Bishopric, and their power entirely swallowed up in the authority of the Bishop. The next ecclesiastical division of the county was into rural Deaneries; and by the "*Valor Beneficiorum*," which was taken in 1292, by command of Pope Nicholas IV. the whole County of Lancaster, exclusive of Furness, which then belonged to Westmoreland, was partitioned into *thirty-six parishes* only. By the same record it appears, that these parishes were included within these four Deaneries, all in the Archdeaconry of Chester; Blackburn, Leyland, Manchester, and Warrington. But the Deanery of Amounderness and Furness is in the Richmond Archdeaconry. "The number of parishes in this county," observes Mr. Whitaker, "has never been diminished by time. On the contrary, it has grown with our towns, and increased with our population."

The *Landed Property* which his Majesty possesses in this county, as Duke of Lancaster, is of great extent, although the revenues arising from it are by no means considerable.

The principal part of this property consists of what are generally styled the Forests of Myerscough, Fulwood, Bleasdale, Wyersdale, and Quernmore, all of which are situated in the most northern parts of the county. In these his Majesty is entitled to the Estrays, and the game, the right of holding the Courts, &c. and must be considered as Lord of the Manor for all the Forests.

The township of *Quernmore* is situated in the hundred of Lonsdale, and parish of Lancaster; and contains a considerable quantity of inclosed and waste land, which amounts to upwards of 3000 acres. The fishery of the Lune is claimed by the King as far as it adjoins Quernmore. There is a separate Court for this Forest, held half-yearly by the Master Forester of Amounderness, whose duty it is, in right of his office, to hold the several Courts for the said Forests.

*Wyersdale* is situated as Quernmore. The river Wyer rises in this Forest, and flows through a valley about the middle of it. The open and inclosed parts together, are computed to contain more than 20,000 statute acres. The greater part consists of mountainous land, which is deemed not worth inclosing; but it produces

produces abundance of game. The Court is held similar to that of Quernmore.

*Bleasdale* is situated in the hundred of Amounderness, and parish of Lancaster, and lies co-extensive with the township of Bleasdale. According to a report made in the year 1777, by the then Receiver General, it contains from 3500 to 4500 acres of uninclosed, and about the same quantity of inclosed, land. The Court of this Forest is not held separately, but jointly, with those of Myerscough and Fulwood.

*Myerscough* is situated near the turnpike-road from Preston to Lancaster, and almost eight miles from the former place. The present township of Myerscough is understood to be of equal extent with the ancient Forest, and consists of nearly 2200 statute acres; about 300 of which belong to Charles Gibson, Esq. of Quernmore Park, and nearly the same quantity to a Mr. Greenhalgh. The remainder belonging to the King, is called Mayerscough Park, and is held under a lease by Mr. Heatley, with the exception of a small portion of woodland. The whole of this Forest is inclosed.

*Fulwood* is situated near Preston. The ancient Forest of Fulwood comprised a large quantity of land which is now inclosed; the whole, or a considerable part, of the town of Preston is said to have been originally within its boundaries. The uninclosed parts of the Forest appear to contain about 908 statute acres. Preston race-ground is a portion of it at present.

Besides the lands belonging to the Duchy, there are a few other large proprietors, who possess extensive estates in this county. But the prevalence of trade, manufacture, and commerce, has tended greatly to subdivide the property in the vicinity of the large towns especially, and hence the county of Lancaster has a greater number of land-owners than any other county, excepting Middlesex, in England. When Camden wrote his *Britannia*, he remarked, that Lancashire was distinguished for the number of ancient families, the names of whom were the same as their manorial estates. This remark still applies, though not to the same extent, as many old family mansions are now deserted, or divided into



into several tenements. This will be exemplified in the subsequent pages.

Previous to, and under the early Norman dynasty, this county was distinguished as an *Honour*;<sup>\*</sup> and was of the superior class of Seigniories, on which inferior Lordships and Manors depended, by the performance of certain customs and services, to the Lords who held them. Landed Honours belonged exclusively to Kings originally, but were afterwards granted in fee to Noblemen. These kept their Honour Courts "every year at least, or oftener, if need be; at which Court all the Freeholders of all the Manors that stand united to the said Honour, shall make their appearance, which suitors shall not sit, but stand bare-headed; and over that Court shall be hanged a cloth of state, with a chair of state, upon which chair shall be laid a cushion, either of cloth of gold or velvet, seemly and decent for such a place of honour, upon which there ought to be embroidered the arms of the Honour."<sup>†</sup>

That the *Honour* of Lancaster existed before the Conquest, is demonstrated by an agreement (still preserved) made between King Stephen and Henry Duke of Normandy. Soon after the Conquest, three Noblemen held the Honour of *Luncaster*, as it was then termed; but Roger of Poitou is the first person whose name has been recorded as the possessor; and that Nobleman forfeited it for high treason. King Stephen then gave it to his own son, William. From this period till the reign of Henry the Third, the Honour was held by several great personages. And the latter Monarch conferred it on his second son, Edmund Plantagenet, surnamed Crouchback,<sup>‡</sup> when it became an Earldom; not through creation, but in consequence of the possessor being an Earl by birth-right. In addition to this event, Parliament passed an Act, in which Edmund was styled *Earl of Lancaster*.

The

\* For an account of the nature and quality of an *Honour*, see Statutes, 31st of Henry the Eighth, ch. v.—33d of Henry the Eighth, ch. 37, 38.

† Hopkinson's MSS.

‡ This appears by his Letters Patent, dated at Lincoln, August 8th, in the twenty-second year of his reign.

The title of *Duke of Lancaster* was created by Edward the Third in favor of Henry Plantagenet, whose daughter and heiress, Blanche, married John of Gaunt, fourth son of Edward the Third, for whom the privileges and revenues were considerably increased; and himself created Duke of Lancaster on the death of his father-in-law. Henry the Fourth, his son, procured an Act of Parliament, which decreed that the title and revenues should remain to him and to his heirs for ever, as a distinct and separate inheritance from the Crown, and thus they descended to his son, and grandson, Henry the Fifth, and Henry the Sixth.

John of Gaunt, so named from Ghent, in Flanders, the place of his birth, possessing the vast estates and revenues of the Duchy,\* had sufficient interest to obtain the following patent, by which the county of Lancaster was advanced to the dignity of a Palatinate. "We have granted, for ourselves and our heirs, to our said son, that he shall have, during life, within the county of Lancaster, his Court of Chancery, and writs to be issued out under his seal belonging to the office of Chancellor; his Justices both for holding the pleas of the Crown, and for all other pleas relating to common law, and the cognizance thereof, and all executions by his writs and officers within the same. And all other Liberties and Royalties relating to a County Palatine, as freely and fully as the Earl of Chester is known to enjoy them within the county of Chester."†

According to Cowel, "the jurisdiction of a County Palatine was of so high a nature, that whereas all pleas touching the life or Mayhem of a man, called *Pleas of the Crown*, be ordinarily held and sped in the King's name, and cannot pass in the name of any other. The chief governors of these, by especial charter from the King, did send out all writs in their own name; and did all things touching

\* To which belonged lands in Lancashire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincoln, Nottingham, Derby, York, Rutland, Stafford, &c. Some of these are specified in Malcolm's *Londinium Redevivum*, Vol. III. p. 401.

† For an account of the County Palatine of Cheshire, see Beauties, &c. Vol. II. p. 185; and of the Duchy of Cornwall, in the same Volume.



touching justice, as absolutely as the Prince himself in other *counties*, only acknowledging him their superior and Sovereign. But by the twenty-seventh of Henry the Eighth this power is much abridged." The Duchy was declared forfeited to the Crown in the first year of the reign of Edward the Fourth, by the attainure of Henry the Sixth for high treason; and at the same time an Act of Parliament was passed\* to incorporate the Duchy of Lancaster with the County Palatine; and also to vest the whole in the King and his heirs, *Kings of England*, for ever, under a distinct governance from the other possessions of the Crown. This Act was confirmed by Henry the Seventh, with a power of resuming such parts of the Duchy land as had been dismembered by Edward the Fourth.†

The

\* This is a private Act, and was never printed, but is preserved in the Archives of the Duchy Chamber. *Nelson's MSS.* p. 208.

† List of Records, Letters Patent, &c. relating to the Duchy of Lancaster.

1. An Exemplification made in the first of Edward the Fourth, of the grants made by Edward the Third unto John of Gaunt, for creating him Duke of Lancaster, making the same a County Palatine, as free as West Chester; with other liberties, granted in the fifty-first of Edward the Third, for term of life only. This exemplification contains a grant made to John of Gaunt, and Blanche, his wife, and to the heirs male of their bodies, of the said Dukedom and County Palatine.

2. *Charta de Inspeximus* of King Richard the Second, with recital of four several charters of King Edward the Third, made to John of Gaunt, of Liberties and Lands annexed to the Duchy of Lancaster, and Lands exchanged. Dated first of Richard the Second.

3. A Charter of Edward the Fourth, in the first year of his reign, for confirming the separation of the Duchy of Lancaster from the Crown, by authority of Parliament, with an *Inspeximus* of the Charter of Henry the Fourth.

4. A Charter of the first of Henry the Seventh, wherein is this proviso, "Proviso semper quod omnes et singuli tenentes, inhabitantes et residentes, imposterum solvent Theolonium, Pariagium, Passagium, Picagium, Stallagium, Lastagium, Tallagium, Tollagium, Cariagium, Pesagium, et Terragium in omnibus et singulis Foris, Mercatis, Villis et locis

The Court belonging to this Duchy has the power of deciding every cause relating to it; and the officers are, a Chancellor, Attorney-General, King's Serjeant, King's Counsel, Receiver-General, Clerk of the Council and Register, Surveyor of Lands, &c. a Messenger, an Attorney in the Exchequer, an Attorney of the Duchy in the Chancery, four Counsellors, &c. The offices of the Duchy Court are at Somerset Place, London.

The SOIL and SURFACE of the county are various; and its *features* in some parts, particularly towards the north, and all along its eastern border, are strongly marked. Here the hills are in general bold and lofty, and the vallies narrow and irriguous. Near the sea coast, and nearly the whole of the southern side of the county, following the course of the river Mersey, the land is low and flat.

## VOL. IX.

## B

## In

locis quibuscunque infra predict: Ducat Lancast: ubi aliquod Theolonium Paragium et cetera premissa ante dicta solvere consueverunt prout est justum." Dated in October.

5. Statute of Parliament, third of Henry the Fifth, concerning the Duchy.

6. Statute made in the twenty-second of Edward the Fourth, concerning Warb and Liveries of those who hold of the Duchy, and authority given to the Attorney of that Court to prosecute.

7. Statute of the twenty-second of Edward the Fourth, for enclosure of Woods.

8. Statute for Supplement of the King's Household the same year.

9. Statute that it shall not be lawful for any to mark Swans, but those who have Lands of the yearly value of five marks the same year.

10. That the Prince of England shall be called Duke of Lancaster. Second of Henry the Fourth.

11. Partition of the Inheritance of the Earldom of Hereford, made by Henry the Fifth, and united to the said Duchy in the second year of his reign; together with the union of the rights and possessions of the Earldoms of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, to the said Duchy.

12. The act of incorporating and confiscating the Duchy of Lancaster, on the conviction of treason of King Henry the Sixth, to the Crown: first of Edward the Fourth.

13. Statute for disposing to the use of the last Will and Testament of Edward the Fourth, in the twelfth year of his reign, of several Honours, Manors, Lordships, and Lands.



*sulphuret of Barytes.* The former, which is a very rare mineral, is found in the greatest abundance near the surface: and as it descends, it becomes progressively contaminated by the sulphuret, which in the lowest strata seems completely to usurp its place. The existence of carbonat of barytes, as a product of nature, was first distinctly ascertained by Dr. Withering; \* but that gentleman seems to have been mistaken respecting the place where his specimens were obtained. To James Watt, Jun. Esq. the public are indebted for a description of the external character of this substance, and its effects on the animal body when taken internally. † In the neighbourhood of Chorley it is employed as a poison for rats; and there can exist little doubt of its being the same substance, mentioned by Dr. Leigh, ‡ who erroneously ascribes its deleterious qualities to the admixture of arsenic.

**RIVERS.**—The chief of this county are the Irwell, the Mersey, the Douglas, the Ribble, the Calder, the Wyer, and the Loyne or Lune. Beside these there are several other smaller streams or rivers, all of which direct their course towards the west, and empty their waters into the Irish Sea. Commencing our description with those to the north, we first find the river

*Dudden* skirting and separating the western side of Furness from Cumberland, and, at its junction with the sea, forming a considerable bay at high water.—See *Beauties*, &c. Vol. III. p. 72.

The *Crake River* runs nearly parallel to the above, and connects the waters of that Lake called *Thurstun Water*, with the sea at Leven Sands. The waters of Winandermere Lake join the sea through the channel of the *Leven*, nearly at the same place. The most considerable river in the north part of the county is the *Loyne* or *Lune*, which, emanating from the fells of Westmoreland, enters this county near Kirkby Lonsdale. Soon afterwards its stream is augmented by the waters of the *Greta*, and the *Wenning* from Yorkshire, and the expanded river then passes through the much admired

\* See Philosophical Transactions for 1784.

† See Manchester Memoirs, Vol. III.

‡ Natural History, B. I. Ch. IV. p. 70.

admired valley of Lonsdale. Pursuing a south-westerly course, it reaches the county town, where it becomes navigable; and, at the distance of about two miles from Lancaster, is calculated to bear ships of considerable burthen. "Few streams can equal the Lune in beauty, from Sedbergh where it enters a cultivated and inhabited district, to its conflux with the sea; nor can many of the vales of England vie with the Lonsdale. Gray's celebrated view of it is taken from an eminence above this river, near the third mile stone from Lancaster, from whence almost the whole of this delightful district is visible, abounding in villages, with the town and castle of Hornby in the centre, finely intersected by the Lune, winding between hills cloathed with wood, and backed by the high mountain of Ingleborough in Yorkshire. The approach to Lancaster is indescribably striking, where the river becoming wider, and winding in several bolder sweeps, opens to the view of that singular town, descending from a high hill, whose summit is crowned by the bastions of its castle, and the lofty tower of its church."\*

Proceeding southward, the next considerable river is the *Wyer*, or *Wyre*, which, taking its source among the moors, on the north-eastern part of the county, meanders through a very romantic district; and, pursuing a south-westerly course towards the sea, receives the waters of several other mountain streams before it reaches Garstang church town. Near this place its current is greatly augmented by the waters of the rivers *Calder*, &c. and passing near the town of *Poulton*, expands into a broad bason called *Wyer-water*; and, again contracting its banks, joins the Irish Sea between *Bernard's-Wharf*, and the *North-Scar*.

The *Ribble* river, like the *Loyne*, unites to the sea by a very broad estuary, and like that has also a Roman station on its banks. "This river," observes *Dr. Whitaker*, "by the general consent of most antiquaries, has been understood to be the *Belisia* of *Ptolemy*." And this hypothesis is supported by the resemblance, and by the etymology of the two words, as well as by the

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bearings

\* *Skrine's Account of Rivers, &c.*

bearings and distances laid down by that geographer. "This beautiful stream," continues the Doctor, "intersecting in its sinuous course the whole county of Lancaster, receives, near Mitton, the *Hodder*, which, coming down from Cross of Grete, for several of the last miles, forms the boundary of Yorkshire and Lancashire, as it must originally have done between two British tribes: the word *Oder*, in that language, signifying a limit, or bound." The *Ribble* is one of the largest rivers in the north of England, and has its source in the high moors of Craven in Yorkshire. Taking first a southerly course, it passes by the town of Clithero, and, forming the boundary of the county for a short space, is joined by the *Hodder*, and the *Winburne* from *Whalley*. In a devious westerly course to *Ribchester*, it also receives three other smaller streams, whence flowing through the romantic valley of *Ribblesdale*, it passes near the populous town of *Preston*, and soon afterwards joins the Irish Sea. The chief course of this river is through a highly commercial and well cultivated country; and near the thriving town of *Preston* its banks are bold, grand, and finely adorned with hanging woods. Two handsome bridges, in the vicinity of this town, combine to enrich and dignify the scenery. A little west of this place, the *Ribble* forms a spacious estuary, which is enlarged by the mouth of the river *Douglas*. This has its source in the vicinity of *Rivington-pike*, and after passing the town of *Wigan*, proceeds north-westerly by *Newburgh*, and near *Rufford* is joined by the *Elder brook* from *Ormskirk*. After receiving the united streams of the *Yarrow* and *Lostock* rivulets, it empties itself into the estuary of the *Ribble*, at a place called *Muck-Stool*.

The *Alt* river, rising near *Knowsley Park*, and flowing in a north-westerly direction, joins the Irish Sea, near *Formby Point*. There are several small streams, that join the river *Mersey*, on the north side of the county; the chief of which is the

*Irwell*. This stream appears to originate in the moors, about the parallel of *Haslingden*, near the Yorkshire and Lancashire boundaries, whence it flows, swelled by other small streams, through the manor of *Tottington* to *Bury*. Below this place it



forms a junction with the *Rock*, and then makes a considerable curve to the west; but meeting with a rivulet from Bolton, the Irwell then winds suddenly towards the south-east, and proceeds in that direction to Manchester, where it unites with the *Medlock* and the *Irk*. Again changing its course to the west, and passing through Barton, where the Duke of Bridgewater's canal is carried over its surface, by means of a grand aqueduct, it falls into the Mersey, below Flixton. The course of this river, from Bury to Manchester, is through a very romantic, and extremely populous country. Its banks are bold and grand, and in many parts richly adorned with hanging woods. The scenery from Lever to Clifton is particularly striking, and eminently picturesque. Mr. Whitaker, having occasion to mention this river, describes its course, &c. in the following terms: "Welling gently from a double fountain, near the upper part of an hill, betwixt Broad-Clough and Holme in Rossendale, wantoning in wild meanders along the vale of Broughton, and wheeling nearly in one vast circle about the township of Salford, the torrent carries its waters along the western side of Mancenion, and was therefore denominated Ir-guiel, Ir-well, Ir-will, or the Western Torrent." Vol. I. p. 222.

CANALS, in a commercial and manufacturing country, are of almost incalculable utility and importance: and, from the natural peculiarities of rapid rivers, and expensive tediousness of land carriage, are now very generally appreciated, and well understood in England. Their origin in this country is, however, very recent; and from the best authority, it appears that the *first* complete *artificial canal* was planned and formed in Lancashire. This was known by the name of the *Sankey*; but, long previous to the making of this canal, different acts of parliament had been obtained, and companies formed, for rendering the rivers Irwell and Mersey, also the Weaver, &c. navigable. By the assistance of the tide, which flows with rapidity up the channel of the Mersey, vessels were enabled, without any artificial help, to navigate nearly to the town of Warrington. To render the higher parts of the river, through its communicating branch the Irwell, accessible for vessels as far as

Manchester, was an improvement much wanted by the manufacturers of that town, and its vicinity. To effect this, an act of parliament was obtained in 1720, whereby certain persons of Manchester and Liverpool, but mostly those of the former town, were empowered to make the rivers *Irwell* and *Mersey* navigable between those towns. Though the act specified this extent of river, yet, as the Mersey was already navigable from Liverpool to Bank-key, near Warrington; and as all the stipulated demand for tonnage is confined to the navigation between that place and Manchester, it appears that the undertakers meant only to open the upper part of the river. This has been effected by means of wears, locks, &c. and in places where the stream formed considerable curvatures, cuts were made across the necks of the principal bends. By these contrivances a navigable communication was opened between the two towns: but the later improvements in the Duke of Bridgewater's canal, which is not dependant on droughts and tides, have nearly superseded the use of the former channel.\*

Whilst the navigation of the Mersey was thus an object of commercial speculation; that of the *Douglas* was equally attended to. The country round Wigan being particularly rich in coal, the proprietors of the mines in that district obtained an Act of Parliament in 1719, for rendering this river navigable. This being completed in 1727, enabled the speculators to convey their coals, &c. readily and cheaply to the mouth of the Ribble; and thence coastwise to send them to the northern parts of Lancashire, Westmoreland, &c. "The Douglas navigation has since been purchased by the proprietors of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, who have in part substituted an artificial cut for the natural channel of the river."†

The *SANKEY CANAL* originated with a company of gentlemen and merchants, who, in 1755, obtained an act of parliament, authorizing them to make *Sankey brook* navigable from the Mersey river, which it joins about two miles west of Warrington, to near St. Helens. This act empowered certain commissioners to purchase

\* For an account of this Canal, &c. see Beauties, Vol. II. p. 195.

† Aikin's Description of the Country round Manchester,



purchase land and other things necessary for the intended navigation. In the first place, it was intended to extend and deepen the bed of the brook; but, after due deliberation, it was ultimately determined to cut a separate and detached channel, or *canal*. To effect this more completely, a new act was obtained in 1761, wherein it is specified that part of the plan was then executed; but that in neap tides the navigation was rendered impracticable for want of water in the brook. The undertakers were therefore empowered to make a Canal, to extend from a place called Fiddlers' Ferry, on the Mersey, to a spot about 250 yards from the lowest lock. This new part is about one mile and three quarters in length; and in consideration of it, the proprietors are allowed to charge 2d. per ton, in addition to 10d. which was chargeable by the former act. Thus navigable canals had their rise in England, and the peculiar advantages and success of this at Sankey led to many other similar undertakings; in the execution of which, the genius of the Engineer, and speculating spirit of the English, were fully called into action. But many things which were then imagined to be unattainable, and insurmountably impracticable, have been recently effected. As the Sankey Canal was the first example, it may afford satisfaction to some readers to know its present state. "It runs entirely separated from Sankey brook, excepting crossing and mixing with it in one place about two miles from Sankey bridges. Its length from Fiddlers' Ferry to where it separates into three branches, is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles. From thence it is carried to Penny Bridge and Gerrard's Bridge, without going further; but from Boardman's Bridge it runs nearly to the limits of 2000 yards, making the whole distance from the Mersey  $11\frac{1}{2}$  miles. There are eight single, and two double locks, upon the Canal, and the fall of water is about 60 feet. The chief article carried upon it is coal, of which, in the year 1771, by an account given to parliament, there were taken to Liverpool 45,568 tons, and to Warrington, Northwich, and other places, 44,152 tons. There are, besides slate brought down, corn, deal-balk, paving and lime stone, carried up. This navigation is never obstructed by floods, and seldom for any length of time by frosts. The highest spring tides rise within a foot of the level of the Canal at  
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the lowest lock. Loaded vessels are generally neaped about three days, but unloaded can pass to or from the river at every tide. The old lock by which at first it communicated with Sankey brook still remains, but is seldom used, unless when a number of vessels are about entering from the Mersey at once; in which case some of the hindmost often sail for Sankey brook, in order to get before the others. This Canal has proved very beneficial to the public and to the undertakers. Some of the first collieries upon its banks are worked out, and others have been opened. Its business has been increased by the large copper-works belonging to the Anglesea company, erected on one of its branches; and by the plate-glass manufactory, and other works founded near it, in the neighbourhood of the populous town of St. Helens.\* Besides the above named Canal, this county is intersected by portions of nine others, four of which communicate with the populous town of Manchester. I shall proceed to detail a concise account and description of these, in the alphabetical order, and therefore commence with that of,

*The Ashton-under-Line Canal*, which communicates between Manchester and the town of Ashton, was made in consequence of an act of parliament, passed in 1792. Commencing at the east side of Manchester, it crosses the river Medlock, passes Fairfield, and at Ashton passes through a long tunnel in front of Duckenfield Lodge. Near this place it is joined by the Peak-forest Canal, and at Fairfield a branch goes off to the New Mill, near Oldham. The whole length of this canal is eleven miles, with a rise of 152 feet.

*Bridgewater's Canal*. A portion of this has already been described under Cheshire; but there is a branch which exclusively belongs to this county, and communicates from Manchester, to Worsley, Leigh, &c. This immensely profitable navigation originated with the late excellent and patriotic Duke of Bridgewater, who individually and courageously undertook to expend an almost princely fortune in effecting this scheme; the object of which was to supply the manufactories, &c. of Manchester with coal from his

\* Aikin's Description, &c. of Manchester, p. 111;



his estates at Worsley. The branch of it which we have now to trace, commences at the Castle Field, in the suburbs of Manchester, and terminates at Pennington, near the town of Leigh. Contiguous to Manchester there is a communication with the Mersey and Irwell navigation, and Manchester, Bolton, and Bury Canal, by means of Medlock brook. Under the town of Manchester are arched tunnels for a portion of this canal, of considerable length, from one of which coals are hoisted up by a coal-gin, through a shaft out of the barges below, into a large coal-yard, or storehouse, in the main street; at which place the Duke and his successors are, by the first act, bound to supply the inhabitants of Manchester, at all times, with coals at only 4d. per hundred weight, of 140lb.; a circumstance which must have had a great effect on the growing population of this immense town. At Worsley is a short cut to Worsley Mills, and another to the entrance basen of the famous underground works, or tunnels. Here it buries itself in a hill, which it enters by an arched passage, partly bricked, and partly formed by the solid rock, wide enough for the admission of long flat-bottomed boats, which are towed by means of rings, and hand-mills on each side. The Canal, or tunnel, penetrates above three quarters of a mile before it reaches the first coal-works; where it divides into two channels, branching to the right and left. In the passage, at certain distances, are funnels cut through the rock, and issuing perpendicularly at the top of the hill. The arch at the entrance is only about six feet wide, and five in height above the surface of the water. In some places within, it widens, to accommodate two boats to pass each other. To this subterraneous canal the coals are brought from the mines in low waggons, which hold about a ton each, and these are easily pulled down a gentle declivity, on an iron railway, by a man. One of the tunnels is as much as six yards below the Canal, and another 35½ yards above it, and 60 yards beneath the surface. These last, to which the boats ascend by means of an *Inclined-Plane*,\* extend to the veins of coal, that are worked to a great depth

\*Mr. William Reynolds, of Ketley, in Shropshire, was the first person who



depth under Walkden Moor; most of the tunnels are hewn out of the solid rock: from the lower one the coals are hoisted up in boxes, out of the boats, as already mentioned, at Manchester; and the whole of the lower works are prevented from filling with water by large pumps worked by the *hydraulic machine*, and the water is thereby always kept at the proper height for navigation in the lower Canal. In making the tunnels at this place, the engineers encountered some serious difficulties: after the workmen had proceeded a considerable way into the hill, they came, at a great depth, under a small stream of water, by the side of which a large water shaft was sunk, and a drum and large brake-wheel were erected over it. This was made of sufficient size that a man, who stands before a lever, attached to it, can, by means of valves, command the whole machinery, and direct its operations at pleasure. By means of this machine, the mine water is drawn from the lower level, into the middle Canal, and the height and depth of the lower Canal are regulated. Coals are also easily and rapidly let down from the upper shafts into the boats, by this machine, which was one of the ingenious inventions and contrivances of *Mr. James Brindley*, the eminent canal engineer. Near Worsley, a cut branches off, and ends at Chat Moss, a distance of about a mile and a half. By the first act, it was intended to carry this branch to Hollin Ferry, near Glazebrook, there to join the Mersey and Irwell navigation. This plan was never completed. The principal feeders for this Canal are the Worsley brook, with the mine water there collected, and the Medlock brook at Manchester. The tunnelling at Worsley, and the Canal thence to Manchester, were begun

who contrived and executed an inclined plane, which was completed in 1778. It was calculated to convey boats, and their cargoes, from different levels in the Canal, and was found fully to answer its intention. See an account of this, with prints, in *Plymley's Agricultural Report of Shropshire*. In 1797, the Duke of Bridgewater had a similar inclined plane, constructed in his tunnels at Worsley; and in 1800, his Grace caused an account of it to be presented to the Society of Arts in the Adelphi, London; for which the Society voted him the Gold Medal, and published Plans and Sections, with an account in the 18th Vol. of their "*Transactions*."

begun immediately on passing the first act, 32d Geo. II. 1759.\* The boats that navigate from Worsley to Manchester, are only 4½ feet wide, and contain between seven and eight tons each. Several of them are usually linked together, and drawn by one or two mules. Some very large warehouses have been built for stowing goods, &c. belonging to this, and its connecting branches, at the Castle-field, Manchester. In the course of this Canal, near Worsley, and at some other places, small channels are opened from the bottom of the Canal for the purpose of letting water out to irrigate the land in its vicinity.

To Mr. *James Brindley*, the inhabitants of Manchester, and the proprietors of this concern, are principally indebted for the original successful execution of this navigation; and since his death the works have been carried on and promoted by Mr. *Gilbert*, and Mr. *Benjamin Sotham*; whilst the mining department has been ably conducted by Mr. *Thomas Bury*. Since the late Duke's decease, the whole of his canal property has been vested by will in three trustees: the *Bishop of Carlisle*; the *Chief Baron*; and *R. H. Bradshaw, Esq.* The latter gentleman resides at *Worsley-Hall*, and manages the whole for the present Marquis of Stafford, who is sole life proprietor. The boats of these canals are marked *R. H. Bradshaw and Co.*; whence it appears to the stranger that Mr. Bradshaw is the principal partner in the firm.

*Douglas River Navigation* was effected under acts of parliament of the sixth of George the First, and tenth and twenty-third of George the Third. The course of this navigation is nearly north and south; and, for the first nine miles from the sea, it is but little elevated. Its principal articles of conveyance are common and cannel coals, agricultural produce, and lime-stone. It commences in the Tide-way, in the estuary of the Ribble river, near Hesketh, and terminates in the *Leeds and Liverpool Canal*

\* Other Acts were obtained for this, and the other line of the Bridgewater's Canal, the thirty-third of George the Second, and second, sixth, and thirty-fifth of George the Third.



Canal at Briers Mill. From the mouth to Solom, about five miles, the original river Douglas, (or Asland,) is navigable; and thence to Briers Mill is a cut of four miles, with a rise of eight locks, the whole rise from the Ribble being forty-nine feet. The width of the Canal is from twenty-four to thirty feet, and its depth generally five feet. The locks are 70 feet long, by  $15\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide. By the first act, Messrs. William Squires and Thomas Steers were to make the Douglas navigable from the Ribble to Miry-Lane-end, near Wigan. This was effected about the year 1727, and the proprietors were allowed 2s. 6d. per ton for goods, whatever distance they might be navigated thereon. By the first act for the *Leeds and Liverpool Canal*, (tenth of George the Third,) the successors of the first proprietors of the Douglas navigation, were authorised to make a junction with the Leeds and Liverpool Canal at Newborough, by a cut of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles long, parallel to this river, with a fall of 12 feet, which they completed in 1774; and the same now forms part of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, south-east of Newborough Aqueduct Bridge, in consequence of the purchase which that company made of the whole of this concern, in pursuance of their act of the twenty-third of George the Third; since which the Canal from Brier's Mill to Solom above described, as part of the lower navigation, was cut, and completed in 1781; and the river navigation between Solom and Wigan, twelve or thirteen miles, we are informed, has been disused.

*Haslington Canal*, according to an act of Parliament obtained in the thirty-third of George the Third, is intended to communicate in a distance of about thirteen miles between Bury, where it joins the Bolton and Bury Canal, to Church, where it joins the Leeds and Liverpool. No locks are to be made on this line except by consent of three fourths of all the millers who occupy the streams of water; but in their place it is intended to erect inclined pillars. This Canal is not yet completed.

*Lancaster Canal* takes a long course of  $75\frac{3}{4}$  miles, through nearly the whole county of Lancaster, and part of Westmoreland; and is authorised by acts of Parliament in the thirty-second, thirty-third,

third, thirty-sixth, and forty-first of George the Third. It commences at the town of Kirkby Kendal, in Westmoreland, having a feeder from a rivulet about a mile from that town. Proceeding thence directly southwards, it enters Lancashire, near Burton, having passed under ground for about half a mile, near Midway. At Borwick, a little south of Burton, it sinks to its mid-level, which it preserves for several miles, making for this purpose a very winding course, in some places approaching almost close to the sea beach. At Lancaster it is carried over the river Loyne by a most surprising Aqueduct Bridge of five arches. [This will be described in the following account of Lancaster.] Near Preston it is carried over the Ribble by another Aqueduct-Bridge, and again at Garstang over the Wyre. Near Bethorn it is carried over the Beeloo, and in the vicinity of Wigan it passes under the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, by an Aqueduct of about sixty feet high. After passing Preston, it ascends, through a series of locks, to its highest level, on which it proceeds, a little to the eastward of Chorley, across the Douglas, through Haigh, noted for its cannel pits; and, bending to the eastward of Wigan, arrives at its termination at West Houghton. The fall from Kendal to the mid-level is sixty-five feet, and the rise thence, as it advances southwardly, is two hundred and twenty-two feet. A collateral cut in the neighbourhood of Chorley is about three miles in length, and another near Borwick is nearly two and a half miles long. The principal object of this Canal is to open a ready and reasonable communication between the coal and lime-stone countries, thereby interchanging and conveying these articles to different places; and to open the port of Lancaster to other populous towns on the north and south. All the country north of Preston is destitute of coal, and the Canal is directed through a district abounding with this valuable mineral, from West Houghton to *Whittle Hills*. From Kendal to Lancaster, nearly the whole country consists of lime-stone; and on Lancaster Moor, some good *free-stone* is obtained.

From



From the Bason to Greenhead Farm, 5m. 1f. 1c. 20l. is level.

Thence to a spot near Borwick.....9    1   7   75 falls 65 feet.

Borwick to near Preston.....42    5   1   28 level.

Preston to near Clayton Green...+3    0   5   75 rises 222 feet.

Clayton Green to West Houghton 15    5   3   72 level.

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Total.....75    5   9   70

#### Collateral Cuts.

Gale Moss to Duxbury.....2    7   0   11 level.

Borwick to Warton Cragg.....2    3   8   15 level.

This Canal is on an average seven feet deep; the boats are fifty-six feet long, fourteen feet wide, and carry sixty tons. There are two tunnels on its course; one at Hincaster near Leven's Park, of about eight hundred yards long, and another through the Whittle Hills near Chorley, which proved extremely difficult to execute; and at Ashton near Lancaster, there is an amazingly deep piece of cutting. The part of the line between Wheelton, near Clayton Green, and the south end of the long level, is at present supplied with a rail way. Mr. James Brindley was employed, in 1772, to survey a part of this line: the whole of it was soon afterwards surveyed by Mr. Robert Whitworth; and in 1791, *Mr. John Rennie* was employed to proceed with, and complete the works. To the science and good sense of this skilful artist, are the Lancastrians indebted for the astonishing Aqueduct-Bridge near Lancaster, and for several other contrivances in the progress of this undertaking. The Lancaster Canal Company is authorised to raise 414,000l. in 100l. shares, and 200,000l. more in shares of 30l. each. In July, 1796, the last arch of the great Aqueduct-Bridge was completed. In September, 1805, it was stated that the shares divided 1l. per cent. From Bolton to Lancaster, and thence to Preston, the canal was opened in 1797; and in a few years afterwards the whole of the long level was completed. In June, 1803, the Whittle-tunnel was finished, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile of the *rail-way*; so that coals passed from West Houghton to Bramber Bridge; and in 1805, the remainder of the rail-way was opened for conveying  
coals

coals to Preston, Lancaster, &c. The rates of tonnage are for coals  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton, per mile; for lime-stone, salt, slate, brick, stone, iron-ore, clay, manures, &c.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton, per mile; for lime and iron, 1d. per ton, per mile; for timber, wares, and merchandise, 2d. per ton, per mile. Coals are not to pass the intended locks north of Chorley, under 2s. 3d. per ton, after paying which they are free for eighteen miles.\*

The *Leeds and Liverpool Canal* takes a long meandering course through this county, and is intended to unite the ports of Liverpool and Hull. Tracing it from the north-east towards the south-west, we find it enter Lancashire a little north of the town of Colne, near which it crosses the grand ridge by means of a *tunnel* at *Foulridge*. This is 1630 yards in length, and 23 yards below the highest point of the hill; the soil of which proved so loose, that only 700 yards could be worked under ground; the remainder was obliged to be opened from above, from ten to twenty yards deep, and twenty to thirty yards wide at the top. The sides of the excavation were supported by timber, at an immense labour and expense, to prevent the earth falling in, until the tunnel-arch was constructed. This is eighteen feet high, and seventeen feet wide within side, and is formed with stone. This tunnel was completed, and the line opened to Burnley, May 1st, 1796. At *Furnley*, near Burnley, is another *Tunnel*, which was finished in May 1801.

The chief objects of conveyance on this Canal are, common and cannel coal, lime-stone, merchandise, and the agricultural products in its vicinity. At Brier's Mill it connects with the Douglas navigation, (which now belongs to the Company of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, by purchase, under an Act of the twenty-third of George the Third.) Near Bark-Mill, not far from Wigan, it crosses the Lancaster cut by means of an Aqueduct Bridge, which is sixty feet above that Canal. At Church it connects with the *Haslingdon Canal*, at Shipton with *Thanet's Navigation*, and at

Vol. IX.

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Windhill

\* "A plan of the proposed Lancaster Canal, surveyed by John Rennie in 1791 and 1792," may be had of Mr. Faden, Charing-Cross.



Windhill with the *Bradford Canal*. Collateral cuts branch off to Ighton-Hill collieries; another to Mr. Waltham's Altham-collieries; and provision is made for cuts to be opened by the Earl of Balcarras and Mr. Shuttleworth, between their coal-works and the line. The old bason at Liverpool is fifty two feet above low water mark in the Mersey river. Thence to Newborough, twenty-eight miles, the water is level; to Wigan, seven miles, it is raised by five locks, thirty feet. This last length is sometimes called the *Upper Douglas Navigation*, as it originally constituted a part of that concern. From the last place to Bradshaw-Hill, near Asperle, is three miles; and in that short space the level is raised two hundred and seventy-nine feet by twenty-eight locks. Thence to the *Aqueduct* over the Derwent, near Blackburn, is a level of  $19\frac{3}{4}$  miles: thence to Grimsshaw Park, near Blackburn, only three quarters of a mile, are seven locks, raising it  $54\frac{1}{2}$  feet. From this place to the end of the deviation at Barrowford, near Colne, is a level of twenty-four miles. The next three quarters of a mile carries it up  $67\frac{3}{4}$  feet by seven locks, when it enters the Foulridge-Tunnel, and thence descends, by several locks, to Leeds. The locks on this Canal are 70 feet long, by  $15\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide; and the barges employed are keel bottomed, and carry thirty tons of goods. Between Leeds and Wigan, one hundred flats, of forty-two tons burthen, are employed in the coal trade; and passage boats are in constant use between those places.

Near the north-east extremity of Liverpool are very spacious Wharfs and Warehouses, connected with the canal. The first survey for this navigation was made by Mr. Longbottom in 1767; which was revised by Mr. James Brindley, in 1768, under whose auspices it was then begun. After this gentleman, Mr. Robert Whitworth and Mr. Fletcher were employed. The western end of the line was completed from Liverpool to the Douglas old navigation at Newborough, a distance of twenty-eight miles, in 1770; and in 1774, it was completed as far as Wigan. The Company was authorised by their Acts of Parliament, (tenth, twenty-third, thirtieth, and thirty-fourth of George the Third,) to raise 600,000*l.* in shares of 100*l.* The rate of tonnage on lime-stone, and other  
stone,

stones, is  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton, per mile; on coals and lime 1d.; and on all other articles  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton, per mile. No wharfage to be taken unless goods remain six hours.

To open a navigation between the eastern and western seas, by means of the rivers Aire and Ribble, had been often proposed and strenuously recommended, before the above Canal was begun. But this great desideratum has been at length effected; and a Canal has now been made between the towns of Liverpool and Leeds, including a line of  $107\frac{3}{4}$  miles, and communicating at the latter place with the river *Aire*, and at the former with the river *Mersey*, both of which are navigable to the German Ocean on the east, and to the Irish Sea on the west. The fall of water in this course, from the high ridge of mountains which divide Lancashire and Yorkshire, is 527 feet westward; and 446 feet eastward.

*Manchester, Bolton, and Bury Canal*, is authorised by Acts of Parliament, passed in the thirty-first and forty-first of George the Third, and takes a north-westerly direction from the former to the latter town. Its northern end is considerably elevated, and its whole course comprehends a line of 15 miles 1 furlong. It commences at the *Mersey and Irwell* navigation, near the junction of *Medlock-brook*, at Manchester, and terminates at the town of Bolton. At *Bury* is a branch of four miles in length, to join the *Haslington Canal*. From the *Mersey and Irwell*, is a rise of several locks to the bason in Salford parish: thence for about four miles it pursues a level course. In the next three miles are twelve locks, and the remaining track is level, including the branch to *Bury*. The whole rise is 187 feet. Previous to the year 1794, this cut was begun, and several locks were built for narrow boats; but in consequence of other wider Canals being joined to it, these locks were taken up and rebuilt. In its course are two Aqueduct Bridges over the *Irwell*, at *Clifton-Hall*, near *Stocks*: and another over the *Leven* at *Longfold*. In 1797, this Canal was completed to Bolton (except the locks near the *Mersey and Irwell* navigation). On the 17th of August, 1799, great damage was done by a flood, which carried away above one hundred yards of its lower banks. The rates are, for coals, lime-stone, stone, bricks,



&c. 2d. per ton, per mile, if they pass a lock; but all these, except lime-stone, are to pass the levels at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton, per mile. Passage boats are established between Bolton and Manchester; but when the water has been low, passengers have been required to walk past the locks, and take to another boat on the other side, in order to avoid the waste of water.

*Rochdale Canal.* By Acts of Parliament passed in the thirty-fourth, fortieth, and forty-fourth of George the Third, the proprietors of this concern were authorised to open a navigation from the Duke of Bridgewater's Canal at Manchester, to the Calder Navigation at Sowerby Bridge, near Halifax. The course and rise of this Canal are, from its commencement to the Manchester and Ashton Canal, one mile and a half, is a rise of seventy-five feet and a half: thence to Hollingwood branch four miles and a half, with a rise of eighty-one feet: thence to Failsworth brook, two miles and three-quarters, is level: thence to the Rochdale branch, four miles and a quarter, with a rise of 120 feet: thence to Clay-hill, two miles and a quarter, rising sixty-two feet: thence to the Summit-pound, and through the deep cutting to Brier's Mill, five miles and a half, is level. At Halling's Mill is a *tunnel* seventy yards in length, seventeen feet high, and twenty-one wide, with a towing-path through it. Between Littleborough and Todmerden is a piece of stupendous deep cutting through hard rock, of fifty feet. A very large reservoir is made on the west side of the summit; and a steam-engine, of a hundred horse power, is used to pump the water up to the summit-pound. On a bog at Blackstone-edge, are two other large *reservoirs*, one of which is fourteen yards deep. Gauges for regulating the streams of the Roch, Irwell, and Irk rivers, so that only their flood waters are taken for the supply of this Canal, were contrived and erected by the ingenious Mr. John Rennie, the engineer. Steam-engines, within twenty yards of the Canal, are allowed to condense by its water. The east end of the line, from Sowerby Bridge to Rochdale, was completed on the 28th of December, 1798; and on the 18th of September, 1802, it was continued to Lome-wharf. The whole line was completed to Manchester, 21st December, 1804.

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This company are to pay a compensation to the Bridgewater's trust, for the use of warehouses at Castle Field; and to the Calder and Hebble Company for warehouses at Sowerby Bridge. By the first Act, the proprietors were authorised to raise 391,000*l.* in shares of 100*l.* each; and by the last Act, they were allowed to raise a large additional sum. [The rates of tonnage, wharfage, &c. and the exemptions in the first Act, will be found in "*Phillips's History of Inland Navigation*," 4to. pages 157, 159, 161, &c.] From its head level, this Canal falls 275 feet on the Halifax side, and 438 feet 7 inches on the Manchester side. At the commencement of this scheme, it encountered much opposition, and the proprietors, in obtaining their Acts, were obliged to bind themselves not to use any of the waters of the Irk, Calder, and Roach rivers, so as to affect their Mills, &c. They were therefore obliged to make several large reservoirs on the hills to supply the waste of lockage and leakage.

At *Ulverston* is a short cut, or *Canal*, of about one mile and a half, to communicate from that town to the Irish Sea. An Act of Parliament was obtained for this, in the thirty-third of George the Third. A lock is made of 112 feet long, capable of receiving a large vessel. This Canal is 65 feet at top, and 30 feet at bottom; with 15 feet depth of water, and a proper towing path.

Such are the principal, and, I believe, only Canals and Navigable Rivers of this very populous and flourishing county; and the construction of these tends strongly to characterise the commercial and speculating spirit of its active inhabitants. The many advantages of water, over land-carriage, are now very generally known to, and appreciated by, the people of this country: and its effects must be more sensibly felt by the inhabitants of populous manufacturing towns. To that of Manchester, in particular, the Canal has proved eminently beneficial; and the thriving ports of Liverpool and Lancaster, with the central towns of the county, have all derived from this source many important advantages. Whilst the natural produce of the county is readily and cheaply conveyed to various marts, and the coals sent to the devouring factories; the perfected fabrications of the latter are thereby distributed all over the king-



dom, and to the sea ports for foreign exportation. The vast expense of Canal-making has long continued an obstacle, and this can only be surmounted, and its immense charges, with accumulating interest, repaid, by the constant traffic produced by flourishing manufactories.

At the beginning of the last century it was deemed a most arduous task to make a *high road* for carriages over the hills and moors which are found between Yorkshire and Lancashire; but now this country is pierced, and rendered passable for merchandise, &c. by *three Navigable Canals*. The rocky mountains are also perforated, and their steepness subdued, by the genius and persevering labour of man, in cutting subterraneous tunnels through their acclivous and craggy sides.

On reviewing the present and past state of Canals in this kingdom generally, and in Lancashire particularly, and comparing them with the present and former state of the manufactures and commerce of this county only, the human mind is expanded with admiration and astonishment. It may, perhaps, be safely stated that there is no one shire in England where the exertions of human ingenuity and persevering labour have produced such extensive and beneficial effects, as in Lancashire: for in this county, the various machinery connected with manufactures, also with the engines and mines, have been eminently promoted, if not originally invented; and here the system of Commercial Docks was first successfully and advantageously carried into effect, although the latter has since been surpassed in the immense and astonishing Docks belonging to the port of London.\*

**MOSSES.**—Lancashire abounds with those Bogs, or Morasses, which bear the provincial name of *Mosses*. The principal of these are called from the chief places in their vicinity, *Chat; Pilling; Trafford; Risley; Ashton; Road; Bickerstaff; Rainford; Marton;*

\* For an interesting history of Canals, with much useful information on the subject, see *Rees's "Cyclopædia,"* Vol. VI. The very able article for which was written by Mr. John Farey. See also Phillips's "*History of Inland Navigation,*" the last Quarto Edition.

*Marton*; *St. Michael's*; and *Catforth*. The component parts of these chiefly consist of a spongy soil, containing roots of decayed vegetables, intermixed with a sort of rotten mould. The origin and peculiarity of Mosses have occasioned much difference of opinion with the writers on Agriculture and Natural History; but when their precise situations are accurately defined, it seems extremely easy to account for the latter, and thereby discover some clue for the former. The laws of nature are immutable; and when certain natural causes are known to produce certain effects, and these are invariable, it does not appear difficult to ascertain the motive, or primary source. Thus Mosses, or bogs, are always found near spring heads, and in such hollows as prevent a regular and constant discharge of the oozing waters. These must consequently remain stagnant, and from the perpetual generation and decomposition of vegetable matter, must progressively acquire substance. Among the most common vegetables in these situations, are the *Erica Vulgaris*, the *Ornithogalum luteum*, and the different species of *Eriophorum*, or cotton-grass; also bilberry, cranberry, crowberry, *andromeda polifolia*; Lancashire asphodel, sun-dew, and the fragrant *myrica-gale*, or bog-myrtle. As these plants decay, and deposit their substances, a considerable addition is annually made to the moss, in cutting a section of which, in some places, the progressive stratification or lamina may be distinctly discovered. These plants, and particularly the mosses, seem to derive their nutriment and fructification from their own ruins, and grow more luxuriant as the substance increases: at length the whole takes the appearance and consistency of a large fungus; and continuing to increase, it at length grows greatly above the level of the adjacent lands, till the weight of the surface, becoming too great to be supported by the spongy substance below, it overflows its original boundary, and covers the adjoining grounds. A remarkable instance of this occurrence is related of *Solway-Moss*;\* and, according to some of our ancient

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chroniclers,

\* This happened in 1771, and originated from some severe rains, which produced very considerable inundations in the rivers. About 800 acres of land



chroniclers, a great portion of *Chat-Moss* was carried into the Irwell, and thence into the Mersey, and on to the sea. Leland mentions this event in the following terms: "*Chateley* More a vi miles yn lenght, sum (way St.) brast up within a mile of *Morley* Haul, and destroyed much grounde, with *Mosse* thereabout, and destroyed much fresch water Fische thereabout, first corrupting with stinking water, Glasebrooke, and so Glasebrooke carried stinking water and *Mosse* into Mersey Water, and Mersey corrupted carried the roulling *Mosse* part to the shores of Wales, part to the Isle of Man, and sum into Ireland. In the very toppe of *Chateley* More where the *Mosse* was hyst and brake, is now a fair plaine valley, as was in tymes paste, and a Rille runnith in hit, and peaces of small Trees be founde in the Botom." Itin. Vol. 7, p. 46.

Without entering into particulars relating to all the Morasses, or Mosses of this county, I shall give a short account of two or three of those, which have been brought into a state of improvement. On the south side of the river Irwell, is a tract of moss land called *Trafford-Moss*, which contains about 500 acres, and adjoins the park of John Trafford, Esq. at the distance of about three miles from Manchester. The Canal of the Duke of Bridgewater, from that town to Worsley, runs through this Moss, the level of which is upwards of thirty feet above the bed of the river. The facility of drainage afforded by this circumstance, and the abundance of materials found under the bed of the Moss, suggested the idea of the practicability of improving it; and in the year 1793 an act of parliament was obtained, enabling Mr. Trafford to grant both Trafford and Chat Mosses for long terms of years, on a lease for improvement. The improvement of *Trafford-Moss* was undertaken by Mr. Wakefield and Mr. Roscoe, of Liverpool; and the whole of this hitherto useless tract of land is

now

land were then overflowed by the moss, and the habitations of twenty-seven families were destroyed.—See Beanties, Vol. III. p. 107, &c. A similar inundation of moss occurred at Monteith, in Scotland. An interesting account of the Strata, probable origin, rise, progress, and present state of the *High* and *Low* Mosses of *Kincaidine* may be seen in Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, Vol. XXI. p. 151—181.

now converted into excellent arable and pasture ground, and produces crops of grain, grass, potatoes, &c. not exceeded by any lands in the neighbourhood. The first step towards improvement was drainage, and this was effected without any other materials than such as the Moss itself supplied: the drains being covered, at about half a yard deep, with the tough matted sod taken from the surface. The manures used in the improvement have been blue marle, of a strong calcareous quality, which is found under the Moss itself, lime, and compost brought by the canal from Manchester. This tract of land, which, previous to the year 1793, was wholly unproductive, is now worth four or five pounds per acre,\* per annum.

*Chat-Moss* lies on the north side of the river, and of the great turnpike road between Liverpool and Manchester. It is within the Parish of *Eccles*, and Township of *Barton upon Irwell*, and consists of some thousands of acres. A branch of the Duke of Bridgewater's canal terminates in the more northern part of this Moss, on a part of which, belonging to the Duke, considerable improvements are now making. The remainder has been leased by Mr. Trafford for a long term of years to Mr. Roscoe, who commenced the drainage in the latter part of the year 1805, and having already laid a considerable portion of it sufficiently dry, is proceeding to improve it by means of lime, and marle. As this Moss consists of similar materials, and is of the same texture as Trafford-Moss, there can be no doubt that this attempt will be attended with similar success.

Besides the above, there are several other large Mosses in Lancashire, some of which still remain in an useless and unprofitable state of nature. Those places that have been drained, have, in some instances, acquired a value of about 3l. per acre, per annum, although, before their improvement, they were not worth any thing. *Bootle-marsh*, in the vicinity of Liverpool, is now valued at more than three guineas per acre, although, previous to its drainage, &c. it was let at ten shillings per acre, per annum.

*Rainford-*

\*The customary Lancashire acre of seven yards to the rod or pole.



*Rainford-Moss*, near Prescott, has been amazingly improved under the judicious management of Mr. John Chorley, who obtained it, on a lease for three lives, from the Earl of Derby, and pays a rent of eight shillings per acre, per annum. He began his operations on this apparently sterile waste in 1780, and by draining, paring, and manuring, nearly similar to what was practised on *Trafford-Moss*, has rendered the land capable of bearing oats, barley, clover, potatoes, &c. According to his own memorandums, "potatoes, with dung, produced for the first time about four hundred bushels per acre of eight yards; next year potatoes again without dung, produced about three hundred bushels." This gentleman tried Tartarian oats, &c. but thinks that Moss-lands, in general, are not calculated for grain, as they are more congenial to the production of grasses, &c. which come spontaneously, if encouraged with a little dung. He frequently sows clover seed immediately after the potatoes. Mr. Chorley has built some cottages on this land for the labourers, and only charges them 20s. per annum for rent.\*

The AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS of Lancashire are principally *Oats* and *Potatoes*, both of which are used for human sustenance; and many of the labouring classes, in the northern and eastern parts of the county, are chiefly supported by this food. A considerable quantity of Barley, and some Wheat, are cultivated in Low-Furness, the Filde, and in the south-western parts of the county; but it is imagined that Lancashire does not produce one quarter of the grain consumed by its own inhabitants. The lands near the great towns are chiefly appropriated to pasturage and gardens. The first *Potatoes* said to have been cultivated in England, were grown in Lancashire. They were originally introduced into Ireland from North America, about A. D. 1565; and in consequence of an Irish vessel being cast away on the western coast,

near

\* Holt's "General View of the Agriculture of Lancashire," 8vo. p. 97. In this work the reader will find many useful observations relating to the different plans of draining and cultivating the Mosses.

near North-Meols in Lancashire, some of those roots were planted in that part of the county; but it was many years after their first cultivation here, before they were adopted as an article of food in London. At present they are grown in amazing quantities in this county; and many are annually exported hence to Ireland. A great variety of sorts are cultivated here, and great attention is paid to raising new species. They are produced both from cuttings, and from the apples, or seed. The *Ox-noble* and *Cluster* potatoe are chiefly grown for the cattle; and the *Pink Eye*, with different kinds of the *Kidney*, are used for the table. The *Old-winter-red* is found to keep particularly good till the spring, when others have lost their flavour. The produce of a crop of potatoes in this county is generally from 2 to 300 measures, or bushels, per statute acre: \* each bushel weighing about 90lb. before cleaning. The early potatoes are generally planted in rows of about eight inches distance; and the sets four or five inches separate. Many useful particulars are detailed relating to the best mode of planting, growing, and preserving potatoes, in Holt's "*General View of the Agriculture of the County*," 8vo.

Lancashire is possessed of a peculiar breed of *Horned Cattle*, which forms a variety with those of Lincolnshire. The cows are rather smaller in size than those of the latter county, and are known by their wide-spreading horns, and straight backs. "To trace the origin of a breed of cattle now prevailing in Lancashire, would probably, at this time, be a difficult task. But that they were famous over the whole kingdom, is evident from being so frequently noticed, and in such estimation, as to be sought after from all parts of the kingdom. In such repute were they, and of such superior quality, that that great judge in cattle, Mr. Bakewell, thought proper to make them the source from which he has,

by

\* They are frequently much more productive, as exemplified in the following statement by Mr. Waring, Steward to the Earl of Derby. On an acre of land, at Knowsley, the following crops were obtained in 1793 and 1794; in the first year 700 bushels of *Pink-eyes*; and in 1794 the same land produced 9½ bushels of *Wheat*, of 70lb. weight to the bushel. This sold at 7s. 6d. per bushel,



by crossing, &c. made such improvement. But as the breed has been under a progressive state of melioration in Leicestershire, it seems to have been in an equal state of retrogradation in Lancashire, and as if over-awed by competition, has silently yielded to a conqueror. It is not long since, however, that a celebrated traveller made the following observations in his tour through Lancashire.\*

"Breakfasted at Garstang, a small town remarkable for the fine cattle produced in its neighbourhood. A gentleman has refused thirty guineas for a three year old cow; has sold a calf of a month's age for ten guineas, and bulls for one hundred; and has killed an ox weighing twenty-one score per quarter, exclusive of hide, entrails, &c. Bulls also have been let out at the rate of thirty guineas the season; so that well might honest Barnaby† celebrate the cattle of this place, notwithstanding the misfortune he met with in one of its great fairs."‡

"Veni Garstang, ubi nata  
Sunt Armenta fronte lata,  
Veni Garstang, ubi malè  
Intrans forum bestiale,  
Forte vacillando vico  
Huc et illuc cum amico  
In juvenæ dorsum rui  
Cujus cornu læsus fui."

The CLIMATE of this county is proverbially *Wet*, and this seems a natural consequence from its peculiar situation, between the broadest part of the Irish Sea, and the high ridge of hills which form its eastern border. All this side of the county is more subject to rains than the side bordering on the coast: for as the clouds are wafted over the Irish Sea from the Atlantic Ocean, they are first checked and broken by the mountainous ridge, which has a direction north and south; and hence the rains, are almost perpetually falling on the western side of these intercepting eminences.

\* Holt's "General View of the Agriculture," p. 143.

† Better known by the name of Drunken Barnaby, who published his Travels in the North of England.

‡ Pennant's "Tour in Scotland, in 1784."

nences. At Townley, near Burnley, it has been found by experiment, that forty-two inches of rain fall annually, at a medium; and during the same periods, the annual height of rain has been only thirty-three inches at Manchester. At Liverpool and Preston, the average has been considerably less, whilst that at London has been still lower. This wetness of climate is found particularly injurious to the arable lands; though the meadow and pasture grounds are much benefited by it. Frosts are generally less severe, and of shorter duration, on the western, than on the eastern side of these hills.

The *Manufactures, Commerce, and Population* of the county, are subjects properly connected with this general description; but I shall reserve, and bring together all the information I can obtain relating to the first, as an appropriate appendage to the history of Manchester; and to the second, at Liverpool. But respecting the immense population of Lancashire, I will endeavour to furnish the reader with some idea in this place. According to the Report printed for the House of Commons in 1802, relating to the population of Great Britain, it is stated that Lancashire contained 114,270 houses, inhabited by 132,147 families; and 3,394 uninhabited houses. Of these persons, 322,356 were males, and 350,375 were females: 52,018 of these were employed in agriculture; 269,259 in trades and manufactures: and the whole number of persons is set down at 672,731. The comparative state of the population of Middlesex and Lancashire has often been a theme of discussion; but if the returns obtained by parliament be correct, this dispute will now be easily settled. It, however, unfortunately happens, that the totals and calculations of this census have been found to be unsatisfactory and inaccurate, and hence we cannot decide this point with precision. The authorised total of Lancashire will be found to exceed the estimate that has been previously published, whilst that of Middlesex, as hereafter stated, is rather under the supposed number which has been generally admitted by political arithmeticians. According to the



the Parliamentary Report, Middlesex, including London and Westminster, contained 112,912 houses, which were inhabited by 199,854 families; and 5,171 uninhabited houses. Of these persons, 373,655 were males, and 444,474 were females: 18,417 of them were employed in agriculture, and 162,260 in trades and manufactures: and the total number of persons is set down in the printed report at 818,129.

From this comparative view it appears, that the number of houses in Middlesex is only 419 more than the total of Lancashire; and that the occupied houses of the latter county exceed the total of the former by 1,358. The difference of inhabitants is more disproportionate; and this is accounted for by the unhealthful and miserably crowded manner of filling the houses with lodgers, which is so universal among the lower classes of people in London. Dr. Aikin, in Stockdale's "Description of the Country round Manchester," has entered into a long disquisition on this subject; but, for want of satisfactory documents, has, with conjectural data, drawn erroneous conclusions. "The idea of Lancashire containing as many inhabitants as Middlesex, and which are there estimated at a million, ought certainly to be qualified and corrected, as it can by no means be admitted by the political arithmetician, without the most authentic and unequivocal proof; for, supposing its two great towns of Liverpool and Manchester to contain 75,000 each; its four other principal towns 50,000 amongst them; 50,000 more in its manufacturing parts; and 50,000 more in its remaining parishes, this would only give 300,000; nor will any probable data give a number bearing any considerable proportion to a million."\* Such conjectural calculations shew the fallacy of making any deductions, or forming any decided system, from the imperfect returns of the population that have hitherto been made. By the following Table, the totals of the county, of the different hundreds, and of some towns, will be seen at one view:

\* W. Pitt: in a note to *Holt's General View*, &c. p. 216.

| PARISH, TOWNSHIP,<br>or<br>Extra Parochial Place. | HOUSES.        |                        | Uninhabited. | PERSONS.       |                | OCCUPATIONS.                             |                                              | Total of Per-<br>sons. |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                                   | Inhabited.     | Number of<br>Families. |              | Males.         | Females.       | Chiefly em-<br>ployed in<br>Agriculture. | Trade, Manu-<br>factures, or<br>Handicrafts. |                        |
| <b>HUNDREDS.</b>                                  |                |                        |              |                |                |                                          |                                              |                        |
| Anounderness . . . .                              | 7,207          | 7,827                  | 261          | 19,135         | 20,483         | 5,747                                    | 5,488                                        | 39,518                 |
| Blackburn, upper Division                         | 6,951          | 8,001                  | 331          | 20,488         | 21,305         | 2,284                                    | 18,956                                       | 41,793                 |
| Ditto, Lower Division .                           | 8,266          | 8,622                  | 221          | 22,689         | 24,021         | 2,090                                    | 21,613                                       | 46,710                 |
| Leyland . . . . .                                 | 5,403          | 5,746                  | 119          | 15,017         | 15,444         | 3,383                                    | 9,440                                        | 30,461                 |
| Lonsdale . . . . .                                | 6,627          | 6,983                  | 229          | 16,640         | 17,397         | 10,295                                   | 5,284                                        | 34,037                 |
| Salford . . . . .                                 | 29,914         | 31,637                 | 846          | 87,195         | 90,487         | 7,732                                    | 103,914                                      | 177,682                |
| West Derby . . . .                                | 18,389         | 19,927                 | 404          | 48,978         | 52,058         | 16,373                                   | 31,146                                       | 101,036                |
| <b>TOWNS.</b>                                     |                |                        |              |                |                |                                          |                                              |                        |
| Manchester . . . .                                | 19,547         | 13,560                 | 279          | 39,110         | 44,910         | 129                                      | 44,590                                       | 84,080                 |
| Liverpool . . . .                                 | 11,446         | 16,989                 | 338          | 34,367         | 43,266         | 174                                      | 11,269                                       | 77,653                 |
| Huddersfield . . .                                | 1,373          | 1,373                  | 101          | 5,240          | 5,431          | 390                                      | 3,825                                        | 10,671                 |
| Wigan . . . . .                                   | 2,177          | 2,277                  | 59           | 5,068          | 5,921          | 218                                      | 6,867                                        | 10,989                 |
| Lancaster . . . .                                 | 1,598          | 1,998                  | 13           | 3,999          | 5,031          | 133                                      | 1,822                                        | 9,030                  |
| Spotland . . . .                                  | 1,672          | 1,707                  | 123          | 4,430          | 4,601          | 70                                       | 5,045                                        | 9,031                  |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>                            | <b>114,270</b> | <b>132,147</b>         | <b>3,394</b> | <b>322,356</b> | <b>350,376</b> | <b>52,018</b>                            | <b>269,259</b>                               | <b>672,731</b>         |

At the time when England was threatened with an invasion from France, the Lords-Lieutenants were required by Parliament to obtain accounts of all the *Live-Stock*, Corn, &c. in their respective counties. During this alarming period, the Clerk of the General Meetings for Lancashire made out the following List, which shows the quantity of *Live-Stock* in the county in 1803, and also specifies the number of its townships, &c.



|                 | Town-<br>ships. | Oxen | Cows.  | Young<br>Cattle &<br>Colts. | Sheep<br>and<br>Goats. | Pigs.  | Riding<br>Horses. | Draught<br>Horses. |
|-----------------|-----------------|------|--------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Amounderness .  | 57              | 53   | 11,972 | 8,665                       | 12,970                 | 2,881  | 407               | 3,364              |
| Blackburn . .   | 58              | 13   | 15,961 | 8,171                       | 18,904                 | 2,992  | 562               | 2,894              |
| Bolton . . .    | 39              | 17   | 8,533  | 2,860                       | 3,084                  | 1,764  | 390               | 1,993              |
| Leyland . . .   | 40              | 121  | 8,609  | 5,448                       | 2,054                  | 2,174  | 219               | 1,742              |
| Liverpool . .   | 1               | 43   | 935    | 16                          | 261                    | 1,626  | 509               | 832                |
| Lonsdale, North | 28              | 55   | 5,246  | 4,314                       | 2,978                  | 963    | 88                | 2,084              |
| Do. South       | 41              | 125  | 6,083  | 7,472                       | 31,140                 | 2,339  | 351               | 2,149              |
| Manchester . .  | 40              | 22   | 7,074  | 2,125                       | 453                    | 3,265  | 1,057             | 2,035              |
| Middleton . .   | 41              | 24   | 7,503  | 2,028                       | 3,437                  | 1,479  | 524               | 1,702              |
| Ormskirk . . .  | 21              | 81   | 5,649  | 4,260                       | 1,701                  | 3,320  | 285               | 2,527              |
| Prescot . . .   | 38              | 75   | 7,791  | 4,568                       | 2,759                  | 4,764  | 655               | 3,141              |
| Warrington . .  | 35              | 19   | 9,171  | 4,651                       | 1,131                  | 3,415  | 427               | 2,196              |
| Total . .       | 439             | 648  | 84,527 | 54,578                      | 80,772                 | 30,982 | 5,474             | 26,659             |

The county of Lancaster sends fourteen members to Parliament; two knights for the shire; and two representatives for each of the following boroughs—Lancaster, Liverpool, Preston, Newton, Wigan, and Clithero: an account of these will be given under their respective heads. One of the members for the county is returned through the interest and influence of the Earl of Derby: and the other is nominated by what is usually termed, the Independent interest.

Respecting the common judicial administration, Lancashire is included in the Northern circuit, and the county assizes are held at the town of Lancaster, as are also the Quarter Sessions. Though this county does not abound in antiquities, yet it formerly contained a few castles and monastic buildings, as will be seen by the following list:

**CASTLES**—at *Clithero; Gleaston; Holland; Hornby; Lancaster; Peele; and Thurland.*

**RELIGIOUS HOUSES**—at *Burscough; Cartmel; and Coningshead.* Augustine Priors: At Cockersand, an Abbey of the Premonstatentian order: *Furness* and *Whalley*, Cistercian Abbeys: *Holland,*

*Holland*, a Benedictine priory: *Hornby*, Premonstratentian priory: *Lancaster*, *Lathom*, and *Penwortham*, Benedictine priories: *Manchester*, a college.

The history, &c. of these, with the *principal seats* of the county, will be related in the course of the ensuing pages.

*The following Bridges belong to, and are repaired by the County of Lancaster:*

| Bridges.           | Rivers.        | Roads repaired by the County.  |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Barton . . . .     | Irwell . . . . | 740 Feet in all.               |
| Cross-Ford . . . . | Mersey . . . . | 150 Feet South, 300 Ft. North. |
| Lancaster . . . .  | Lune . . . .   | None.                          |
| Ribble . . . .     | Ribble . . . . | 300 Feet North.                |
| Ribchester . . . . | Ditto . . . .  | 300 Feet each End.             |

*The following are become County Bridges by Indictment:*

|                                                                     |                    |                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Colne (1784) . .                                                    | Colne Water . .    | 300 Feet each End.                    |
| Lunsbeck (1790) .                                                   | Lunsbeck . . .     | None.                                 |
| Higher Constable<br>Lee, Rake Foot,<br>and Rushbed,<br>(1799) . . . | Rawtenstall Waters | { None.—Road repaired Ratione Tenure. |
| Barley Green (1802)                                                 |                    |                                       |
|                                                                     |                    | None.                                 |

There are also 481 public Bridges repaired by the different hundreds within the county, besides Township Bridges, &c.

**ROADS.**—From the number of carriages, and great quantity of heavy materials that are incessantly passing in the vicinity of the great manufacturing towns of this county, from a wet climate, soft soil, &c. the *public roads* are generally much damaged, and in many places are absolutely in such an uneven and bad state, as to become dangerous to the traveller. Near Manchester, Liverpool, and some other towns, most of the roads are paved, or pitched like the London streets; and as these are not so easily or cheaply repaired as the common roads, they are suffered to remain very uneven, and in some parts abound with deep holes. "Pave-



ments," observes Mr. Holt, "are the most expensive and most disagreeable of all roads, but we have no other material that will stand heavy carriage." The expense of this pavement is usually from 1s. 2d. to 2s. per square yard. Copper scoria, or flag, has been successfully employed, and makes excellent side-road to the pavement. This was particularly adopted in the neighbourhood of Warrington. Most of the paving-stones are imported from the Welsh coasts, and cost about six shillings per ton. Some of the turnpike-roads in the vicinity of Manchester, paved with these stones, cost from 1500l. to 2000l. per mile.

"In the northern, and north-eastern parts of the county, materials for making roads are found upon the spot; the lime-stone, when broken, binds together, and makes an excellent road; but in the midland, and southern parts, the materials, except what the rivers afford, are brought from the Welsh and Scotch coasts, and at considerable expense\*." It has been remarked, that this county abounds with roads, and that many of these are unnecessarily wide, and others could be entirely dispensed with. In proof of this opinion, Mr. Holt, from the documents of Mr. Yates, who surveyed the county, states that the "parish of Goosnargh contains 3703 acres, and the length of roads in that parish is nearly forty miles, besides three miles of bridle road, and three miles of road repaired by certain individuals. The township of Walton near Liverpool, which only contains 1980 statute acres, has a public road two miles and a half in length; parochial roads, eleven miles two furlongs, besides occupation roads. An ingenious road-maker in the neighbourhood of Warrington, has of late exploded the common *convex* form, and adopted that of an *inclined-plane*; the inclination just sufficient to throw off occasional water. By this alteration he finds that a road becomes more durable; for when it is convex all heavy carriages use the centre of it, and keep in the same track." In Mr. Holt's volume are several judicious and useful observations on this subject, with reference to some other writers who have descanted on the same.

Lancashire

\* Holt's General View, p. 186.





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Lancashire is bounded on its whole southern side by Cheshire, having the river Mersey as a natural barrier. This extends from the sea to Stockport, where the river Tame joins it, and forms the boundary for a short space, till it unites to the Yorkshire line, which county constitutes the whole of its eastern border. To the north, the county of Westmoreland skirts it for a short irregular distance, and the western limits of Furness abut on Cumberland. The whole of the remaining western side is washed by the Irish-sea. A line drawn from the northern extremity, to the Mersey on the south, would measure full seventy miles; but the medium length of the county is about fifty-four miles. Mr. Yates, who published a Survey of Lancashire, gives the following dimensions: Greatest length seventy-four miles; breadth forty-four and a half; circumference (crossing the Ribble at the mouth) 342 miles; surface 1765 square miles. In describing the towns, villages, antiquities, seats, &c. of this county, I shall adopt a systematic topographical arrangement in subdividing it into its Six Hundreds, and detailing and connecting together all the materials respectively relating to each of these. Beginning with the *Hundred of Lonsdale*, which is the most northern parochial division of the county, we find its principal town to be that which gives name to the shire.

#### LANCASTER.

THERE are few of the county towns in England which have been more neglected by the Historian, or more inaccurately described by the Topographer, than that of Lancaster. That it was a Roman station, is evinced by the Saxon termination *Caster*; or *Castre*; and this is further confirmed by the various remains of the domestic economy of the Romans, that are continually discovered in this town and its vicinity.

It has been asserted, that Lancaster "is out of the line of any of the *Itinera*; but whether it was or was not the *Longovicum* of the *Notitia*, its name will certainly not discover." Camden, on the contrary, says, "Both the name, and the river running by



it, prove it to be *Longovicum*, where, under the *Dux Britanniarum*, according to the *Notitia*, was stationed the numerous *Longovicariorum*, who took their name from the place." It is extremely probable that Lancaster was the station upon the Lune, as Rib-easter was upon the Ribble; and Longovicum may possibly have related merely to the form and appearance of the place wherever it was situated; indeed the Roman station of Lancaster must have been the Trajectus of the Lune itself, and not far from the meadow described in Speed's map, as the "Greene Ayre," which is now covered with houses. The Rev. John Whitaker observes, in his *History of Manchester*, "In Richard's *Iter*, the station *Ad Alaunam*, appears clearly from the mention of Luguvallium and Brocavonacis on one side, and of Coecium and Maneunium on the other, to be somewhere upon or within the northern borders of Lancashire. And this and the name *Ad Alaunam* carry us at once to the station at Lancaster, the castrum upon A Laun, or the river Lan. The reality of this station has always been confessed, but the name of it has been sometimes supposed to be the Lugandinum of the Chorography, and more generally, but more wildly, the Longovicus of the *Notitia*. It was certainly fixed upon the plane of the present Castle-hill, as the rocky eminence of the hill, and the immediate vicinity of the river, clearly evince of themselves, and as the still hanging remains of the Roman wall upon the steepest part of it concur to demonstrate." Vol. I. p. 74.

Reynolds, in his "*Iter Britanniarum*," identifies this place as the Bremetonacis of Antoninus; and as Richard left out that name in his *Itinerary*, Mr. Reynolds thinks it may be the Portus Sistuntiorum of the monk. Thus various opinions prevail concerning the Roman name of this station, though all the antiquaries are agreed that it was possessed by the Romans. Camden seems very decided on this head, but the fragment of a Wall which he and Mr. Whitaker ascribed to that people, seems to have belonged to some monastic building. It was situated on the declivity of the hill, between the castle and the bridge, and was called "Wery-Wall," probably from the British name of the town *Caer-Werid*, the Green City, or perhaps the City on the Green Hill.

Dr.

Dr. Whitaker\* combats the opinion that this Wall was of Roman origin, and cites the following passage from Leland in support of his opinion: "Lancastre Castel stands on a hille, strongly builded and wel repaired ruins of an old place, (as I remember of the *Cat-felds*, by the Castle Hill). The new toune, as thei ther say, builded hard by yn the descent from the Castel, having one Paroch Chirch wher sum time the Piori of Monks Alienis wer put downe by King Henry the Fifth, and given to Syon abbey. *The old wall of the circuit of the Piori cummeth almost to Lune bridge. Sum have thereby supposed that it was a peace of the waul of the towne; but indeade I espyed in no place that the towne was ever waulid.* The old towne, as thei say ther was almost al burned, and stood partly beyond the blak Freres. In thos partes, in the fieldes, and fundations, hath ben founde much Roman coyne. The soile about Lancastre is veri fair, plentiful of wood, pasture, meadow, and corn†."

Dr. Leigh asserts, that various coins, pieces of broken earthen vessels, and bones, have been found in this town. In the year 1772, an Altar Stone, four feet long, and two feet ten inches wide, was discovered in digging a cellar. It had the following inscription:

DIS MANI  
BVS  
L IVL APOL  
LINARIS  
REVTE R AN  
XXX EQ AI  
AE AI  
IV,

Four years after the above discovery, some labourers, who were employed in excavating the cellars for a large house in the upper part of Church-street, met with a supposed Roman burial place, at the depth of six feet from the surface. On this spot had formerly

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merly

\* Is a letter to the Author.

† Itinerary, vol. V. p. 93.



merly stood some very old houses, which were then used as the Judge's lodgings. The principal fragments, and relics discovered, consisted of burnt wood, Roman bricks, broken pateræ, urns, coins, horns of animals, bones, and ashes; also two fragments of strong walls, about fifteen feet asunder, with large blocks of stone between them. Similar articles to those just mentioned, with the addition of a human skull, and an earthen sepulchral lamp, were found inclosed by the walls. The cemetery here alluded to appears to have extended under Church-street; as on the opposite side discoveries of the same description have been made.

The only perfect inscriptions on the coins, were confined to one of brass of Marcus Aurelius; and a second small one of silver, in excellent preservation, of Faustina his wife; on the obverse *Diva Faustina Pia*, and on the reverse a monument and *Consecratio*. About 300 feet eastward of the Judge's lodgings, several large hewn stones were afterwards found, one of which was supposed to weigh at least three tons. This was only six feet beneath the surface, and under it were discovered many coins of Domitian, Vespasian, &c. It was thought to have been the corner stone of a temple, or of some other public building\*. In the year 1796 another Roman relic was discovered on clearing away some earth for improving and enlarging the castle. This was a small *votive-Altar*, and was deposited at about six feet from the surface, "between *Adrian's*† *round Tower*, and the great square one of Saxon architecture." From the discovery of this inscribed fragment, Mr. Lee is induced to identify this station with the *Longovicum* of Antoninus, where "the imperial lieutenant of Britain kept a company of the *Longovici* in garrison." Mr. Lee has made out the inscription as follows: DEO-SANCTO-MARTI-COCIDIO VIBINIVS LVCIS. BI-CS. V: S. L. M.

From these evidences, it cannot be doubted that Lancaster was, during

\* *Archæologia*, Vol. V, p. 98, 101, &c.

† "So called, and the lower part of it is evidently of Roman workmanship."—Extract of a letter from the Reverend Francis Lee, M. A. *Archæologia*, Vol. XIII. p. 401.



during the Roman colonization of Britain, a military station, or garrison; but whether it bore the appellation of Ad-Alaunam, or Longovicum, or both these names, at different periods, is not easily determinable\*. Not only during the Roman, but also under the Anglo-Saxon dynasty, Lancaster was certainly a fortress of considerable consequence, for it appears to have been the grand barrier and obstacle to the northern Picts, or Scots, who having eluded or conquered the intermediate garrisons between their southern boundaries and this place, generally encountered a stubborn resistance and repulse here†. This greatly exasperated the marauding borderers, who, immediately after the Romans left the Island, attacked the town, and levelled its fortifications. Soon after the arrival of the Saxons, and the establishment of the Northumbrian kingdom, the commanding site of this ruined town attracted the new settlers, who appear to have restored some of the dwellings, and reedified parts of the castle. The superiority of this, to any other town in the district, is manifested, in the event of its being

D 4. constituted

\* To identify the names of Roman stations, to reconcile the jarring opinions of different antiquaries, and adjust the apparently opposite statements of the Roman-Iters, have proved great obstacles to many of our modern topographers. One perplexing difficulty, I am inclined to think, has arisen from the practice of some writers, who endeavour to find a *different* station for every name they perceive in the different writings relating to Roman Britain. Much of this difficulty will be removed by admitting that one town, as Lancaster, had *two different names* at different periods: or from some remarkable circumstance, had a second denotative appellation affixed to it. This is pretty evident with respect to *Camalodunum-Colonia*: Colchester in Essex; and if we admit Lancaster first to have had the name of Ad-Alaunam, or the town on the *Lawn*, *Lane*, or *Loyne*; it might afterwards have acquired the adjunct *Longovicum*, in consequence of being garrisoned by a company of the Longovici.

† According to the ancient fental tenures, "*Roger de Hewan* holds two carucates of land by the service of *sounding his horn*, when the king enters or leaves the county of *Lancaster*. Lands were given to various settlers in these parts, to hold by the service of *blowing such horns*, and being bound to go at the king's command, with his army, into Scotland; in which they were to be stationed in the *van-guard*, and in the *re-reward* returning."—*Camd. Brit. Tit. Pict. Wall. Beckwith's Fragmenta Antiquitatis*, p. 71.

constituted the chief and designating town of the county. This marked event is referred, by Mr. Whitaker, to the "Seventh century," at which period he observes, that the "Roman Alauna received the honor which it retains at present, and was made the metropolis of the shire\*." Of its annals during the Saxon Heptarchy, we have no records; but soon after the Norman conquest the town again assumes some historical consequence; though by the decisive evidence of the Domesday-book, *Lon-caster*, and *Cherca-Longcastre*, appear simply as two villis, or *Berwics*, among the twenty-two which composed the manor of Halton. It must be observed, that the Terra inter Ripam et Mersam was surveyed by itself, and Amounderness, together with that part of Lonsdale Hundred east of the estuary of Ken and Leven, in Yorkshire. Roger of Poitou was, at the time of the Domesday survey, possessed of Amounderness; but Halton, with its appurtenances, was still in possession of the crown. It must also be observed that there was at this time no church at Lancaster; yet from the name *Chercalancaster* affixed to one of the villages, it seems probable that here, as in many other instances, had been a Saxon church, which was probably destroyed in the ravages of the Danes. Amounderness, however, an unmarked and level tract of country, afforded no convenient site for a great baronial castle. Lancaster therefore, on account of its bold and elevated situation, was probably obtained from the Conqueror in the end of his reign, or from William Rufus soon after his accession, by Roger de Poitou, for this purpose. For, as early as the year 1094, we find this person granting the church of St. Mary in this place, then *newly* founded by him, to the Abbey of Sees, in Normandy, to which it continued a cell until the alien Priors were seized by Henry the Fifth, when it was granted once more to the Carthusian Abbey of Sion, in Middlesex, to which it continued to be a cell till the general dissolution of monasteries. The foundation of the Church and Castle were probably contemporary with each other. The great Tower of the latter, still standing, displays the strong massive style

\* Hist. Man. Vol. II. p. 122.



style of architecture of that period. Its walls are extremely thick, and the buttresses have narrow projections, whilst the lower windows have short round-headed arches, with single shaft columns on their sides. Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, besieged and took this Castle in 1199: at which period it was possessed by the brother of King John, in trust for that monarch when he came to the crown. In the seventh year of the reign of the same king, the Castle and honors appear to have been in the possession of Ralph Blundevil, Earl of Chester; and in the first and eighth years of Henry the Third, the same were held in charge by William de Ferras, Earl of Derby.

As the modern town of Lancaster appears to have grown up with the CASTLE, it will be necessary to inquire into the history, and to endeavour to define some of the characteristics of this august and important structure. Parts of its foundations have been attributed to the Romans, and the large square keep has been commonly ascribed to the Saxons; whilst the grand entrance tower-gateway, with some other portions, are generally referred to the reign of Edward the Third. Though, as a military station, Lancaster was always a place of some importance, yet it owes its chief celebrity to the last monarch, and to his third son *John of Gaunt*, who was created by his father, Duke of Lancaster. The era of this creation appears to have been marked with several distinguished events. "The completion of the fiftieth year of his age," (Edward the Third, A. D. 1362,) "he resolved to treat as an era of Jubilee; and on the thirteenth of November, which was the anniversary of his birth, beside other proceedings, by which he wished to stamp it as memorable, such as the enlargement of all debtors and prisoners, the restoration of such of his subjects as were in a state of banishment, and the abolition, by public ordinance, of the French language in all law-cases, pleadings, judgments, and contracts, within the realm; he also solemnly conferred, in full parliament, upon his second son Lionel of Antwerp, the title of Duke of Clarence, and upon his third son John of Gaunt," as already observed, "the title of Duke of Lancaster,



ter. The style of John of Gaunt was now Duke of Lancaster, and Earl of Richmond, Leicester, Lincoln, and Derby\*: and he claimed as Earl of Leicester, the office of hereditary seneschal, or Steward of England; as Duke of Lancaster, to bear the great sword called *Curtana*; before the kings of England at their coronation; and as Earl of Lincoln, to be grand carver at the dinner given on that occasion †. The Duke being now invested with this title, his royal parent next conferred on him certain grants and privileges to support his dignity; and by the charter given below, it appears that the Duchy of Lancaster constituted an important establishment, and was a sort of petty kingdom ‡. It is presumed that

\* Sandford, Book I. Ch. IV.

† Godwin's "Life of Chaucer," 8vo. Vol. II. p. 225, where the author refers to "Cotton, Abridgment of Records ad ann."

‡ The following charter, extracted from an old MS. book in the Prothonotary's office at Preston, shows the important privileges of the Duchy, and marks the military character of the times.

"Edward, by the grace of God, &c. Know ye, That Whereas we weighing with due consideration the great exploits of all those who have laudably and courageously served us in our wars, are desirous of exalting them by honors; so more especially it becometh us to bestow greater honors and favors upon our own sons, who are so eminently conspicuous for their wisdom and noble actions, and who are so nearly connected with us by ties of blood. Considering therefore the unshaken fidelity, and excellent wisdom of our dear son, John, King of Castile and Leon, Duke of Lancaster, who, by his labours and exertions, and many times when necessity required it, by bravely exposing himself to the dangers of war, hath proved himself always devoted to our service; and wishing on that account, and desiring to reward our said son with some sort of advantage and honor for the present, (though not to the full as his merits justly require,) of our certain knowledge, and with heartfelt joy, do, with the assent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, in our present Parliament at Westminster being assembled, grant for ourself and our heirs unto our said son John, That he shall have for the term of his life his Chancery and Writs under his Seal for deputing to the office of Chancellor, for appointing his Justices, as well to hold Pleas of the Crown, as other Pleas whatsoever touching the Common Law, and to pass Judgments in the same, and to issue Executions of what sort soever by their writs and officers: and other liberties and Royal Rights (*jura Regalia*,) whatsoever to a County Palatine appertain-

ing,

that the Castle was now considerably enlarged, and that a household was established here, suitable to the dignity of its proprietor, and to the customs of the times. But the precise events of the place, and of the Duke's domestic history, are not publicly recorded. It is evident, however, that he procured for the town the exclusive right of holding the sessions of Pleas for the whole county, as is exemplified in the charter below \*.

It will appear from the above particulars, that the prosperity of Lancaster materially depended upon its connection with the lords or proprietors of the Castle, and that circumstance will account for the steady loyalty evinced by the inhabitants, even in the reign of King John, who granted them a charter as ample as those he had before conferred on Northampton and Bristol: but what the inhabitants of this town gained by their adherence to the monarch, was

ing, as freely and fully as the Earl of Chester claims to enjoy within the same county of Chester, &c."

\* The following is a translation of Edward the Third's Charter to this town, relating to the *County Sessions*:

Edward, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland and Aquitaine; To all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs and their officers, and all Bailiffs and their followers, Greeting. Know ye, That We of our special favor, and at the prayer of our beloved son, John Duke of Lancaster, have granted, and by this our charter confirmed, for Us and our Heirs, to our beloved the Mayor, Bailiffs, and the whole community of Lancaster, their Heirs and Successors, that all Pleas and Sessions of all Justices whatever assigned for the county of Lancaster, shall, in the said town of Lancaster, as the capital town of the said county, and not elsewhere within the said county, be for ever held. Wherefore We will and declare for Us and our Heirs, that the Pleas and Sessions of all Justices whatsoever assigned for the said county, shall be held in the said town, and not elsewhere. It is decreed; Witness the Reverend venerable Fathers, Simon Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, William Bishop of Winchester, our Chancellor, and Simon Bishop of Ely, our Treasurer; Richard Earl of Arundel, Robert Earl of Suffolk, Thomas de Veer Earl of Oxford, our Chamberlain, Edward le Despenser, Ralph de Nevill, John de Nevill, John Atte Lee, the Seneschall of our Household, and others. Given under our hand at Westminster, the thirteenth day of November, in the thirty-sixth year of our reign.

By Writ of Privy Seal.



was counterbalanced by their losses through their devotion to the Lancastrian line, during the unhappy civil war between the houses of York and Lancaster, which deluged the country with blood \*. It appears that this town was half depopulated; and even in Camden's time the residents consisted principally of husbandmen. On the confirmation of the charter, with additional privileges, by King Charles the Second, the town again revived, and from that period it appears to have progressively augmented its commerce, local trade, and buildings. The magnificent CASTLE, which has been alternately the terror, glory, and safeguard to the town, is spacious in plan, and commanding in situation. Occupying the summit of a high hill, built of strong materials, with massive walls, and several guard towers, bastions, &c. it must formerly have assumed a grand, and apparently safe residence. Though much of its ancient character and dignity have been sacrificed, yet it still occupies a spacious area, and its architectural features and appropriation are entitled to general admiration. The encircling walls embrace an area of 380 feet from east to west, by 350 feet from north to south. In which space is a large court-yard, with smaller yards, and several differently shaped towers. At present the whole is appropriated to the county-gaol, with its necessary appendages of Gaoler's-house, Prisoners'-rooms, Cells, Work-shops, Courts of Justice, &c. Nearly facing the east, and communicating with the town, is the strongly fortified *tower-gateway*, or chief entrance. This consists of two semi-octangular projections, which are perforated near the bottom, with narrow apertures in each face for the discharge of arrows; and the whole of the summit has bold machicolations, with embrasures, &c. The gateway was additionally guarded by port-cullises. Within this entrance is a large open area, or court-yard, surrounded with towers and fortified walls; and nearly facing the entrance, at the opposite side of the court, is the large square *keep*, already referred to. The walls of this are of amazing thickness, and its apartments are of grand dimensions,

\* For a copious account of these wars, and of John of Gaunt, see Nichols's History of Leicestershire,



dimensions. One of these rooms "appropriated to the use of prisoners, who for slight offences are sentenced to a temporary confinement, is about sixty-three feet long, having only four plain walls, and making nearly the proportion of a double cube\*." This room is referred to by Mr. Duppa, as calculated to produce a great effect, by simplicity of form and grandeur of dimensions. The floors of these rooms are stone and composition. The summit commands several extensive, diversified, and sublime views, in which the winding river Lune, with its bridges and aqueduct, the expanded bay of Morecambe, the mountains of Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Yorkshire, and the beautiful vale of Lonsdale, constitute the prominent features.

Mr. Gilpin, with his usual felicity of language, has given an impressive description of a thunder-storm scene, as viewed from this Castle†. A little north of the keep are the Shire-Hall, and County-Courts, also several offices and apartments connected with them. These are mostly modern, and have been erected and fitted up at an immense expense, by the contributions of the gentlemen of the county. Mr. *Harrison*, the architect of Chester gaol, &c. gave the principal designs for these alterations, which in general have been grand and judicious; but the recent finishings are from the designs of Mr. *Joseph Gandy*, who has displayed much taste and science in the parts that have been effected after his drawings. In the decorative finishing of the windows, &c. of the *Grand Jury* room, which is circular, with a coved roof, ornamented with groins, springing from brackets, and in the *Shire-Hall*, he has introduced some elegant and correct architectural decorations. This latter apartment is singularly beautiful, and consists of a semi-circular area, with an aisle going round it, and has a groined roof, with the interstices between the groins open. This roof is supported by six quadruple clustered columns. Against the flattened side of the room are the Judges' Seats, beneath elegant pinnacled canopies,

\* Duppa's Life of Michael Angelo.

† See "Observations relative chiefly to Picturesque Beauty, &c. on the Highlands of Scotland," 2d Edit. Vol. II. p. 173.

canopies, and the windows, doors, pannels, seats, &c. are all finished in a style corresponding to the enriched ecclesiastical buildings of the fifteenth century. Over the Judges' Seats are two full-length portraits of *Colonel Stanley* and *Mr. Blackburne*, members for the county. These are by *Mr. J. Allen*, and are executed with that fidelity and truth which distinguishes this artist's pictures. Between them is a pannel intended to contain a full length portrait of his present Majesty, seated on a charger, with a view of Lancaster Castle and Church in the back ground. This grand picture is by *Mr. Northcote, R. A.* and the horse is drawn and painted in a style of expressive energy, and peculiarity of foreshortening, which manifest the eminent abilities of this artist. On it is the following inscription: "Presented to the County Palatine of Lancaster, by the High Sheriff James Ackers, Esq. of Lark-Hall, Ann. Dom. 1800."

In a circular tower, commonly called *John of Gaunt's Oven*, is a collection of rolls, records, &c. relating to the official business of the county. In another part of the new buildings, are the *Crown-Hall*, a spacious and appropriate room, also a library, &c. all finished and fitted up in a grand, substantial, and elegant style. Viewed as a whole, or analysed in detail, it may be safely asserted, that no county in England can boast of a Gaol, with all its concomitant parts, so complete, grand, and admirable, as Lancaster. And whilst the directors are thus laudably employed in giving grandeur, elegance, and comfortable convenience, to that building, which was formerly the palace of the county, but now its public prison, they will be justly entitled to the praise of the local historian, and the approbation of future ages. On the north and south sides of the Castle are raised terraces, which constitute very pleasant and interesting promenades. The following account, from the benevolent *Mr. Howard*, will serve to explain the regulations and economy of the Gaol; though it is but justice to say, that many judicious regulations, and improved arrangements, have been made here by the present worthy gaoler, *Mr. Higgin*, since the publication of *Mr. Howard's Observations, 1777*. "The gaoler has no salary; debtors' fees, 8s.; felons, 13s. 4d.;



and transports 5l. each. The debtors' and felons' allowance, one shilling each on Saturday morning. Debtors' garnish 7s. 2d. and that of felons 2s. 6d. The chaplain does duty twice on a Sunday; and once every Wednesday and Friday; and has a salary of 50l. yearly\*. The master's side debtors have many apartments; men and women felons have their day-rooms apart, at the upper end of the yard; women sleep in their day-room; men have for their night-rooms two vaulted cells. One of the rooms for debtors is called the *Quakers-room*, because it is said, when those people were so cruelly persecuted in the last century, vast numbers of them were confined in it." Some charitable legacies are bequeathed to the debtor prisoners of this gaol. It is supposed that this prison will now contain 5000 men within its walls.

Contiguous to the Castle, and on the same eminence, is the PARISH CHURCH, which is a large spacious building, and consists of a nave, two side aisles, and a handsome tower at the west end. The aisles are divided from the nave by eight pointed arches on each side, the mouldings of which spring from clustered columns, and at the east end is a wood-screen of elegant carving. This is enriched with foliage, pinnacles, crockets, &c. and was formerly placed across the church, to separate it from the chancel. Here are a few of the monkish turn-up seats still remaining, and a few monuments. Among the latter is a mural marble slab to *William Stratford*, LL. D. who was commissary of the archdeaconry of Richmond, and died in 1753, aged seventy-five years. The monument was executed by *L. F. Roubiliac*, and on it is a small groupe in basso-relievo, representing a figure of Charity relieving an Old Woman with two Children. The figures, though slight, are marked with masterly expression, and evince the taste and skill of this justly eminent sculptor. Against the north wall is a large mural marble tablet raised to the memory of *Samuel Eyre*, a judge, whose body was removed to Salisbury, the 12th September,

\*Thirty-six pounds from the County; 4l. from the Duchy; and 10l. from a Charity.



September, A. D. 1698. A bust of him, with a large flowing wig and cap, is attached to the monument.

On a grave-stone, in this Church, is a pompous inscription, commemorative of the various offices and *transcendent virtues* of *Thomas Covell*, who was "six times mayor of the town, forty-eight years keeper of the Castle, forty-six years one of the coroners of the county; captain of the freehold land of the hundred of Lonsdale, on this side of the sands, &c. and died August 1st, 1639."

"Cease, cease to mourn, all tears are vain and void,  
He's fled, not dead, dissolved, not destroy'd;  
In heaven his soul doth rest, his body here  
Sleeps in this dust, and his fame every where  
Triumphs: the town, the country farther forth,  
The land throughout proclaim his noble worth.  
Speak of a man so courteous,  
So free, and every where magnanimous;  
That story told at large here do you see  
Epitomiz'd in brief, COVELL was he."

"This is given as a specimen," says Mr. Pennant, "of an Epitaph so very extravagant, that the living must laugh to read; and the deceased, was he capable, must blush to hear. Lancaster Church was one of those reserved by Henry the Eighth as a *sanctuary* after the abolition of that dangerous privilege in the rest of *England* \*."

The situation of Lancaster being on a gentle ascent, and the summit adorned with the Church and Castle, the general appearance is commanding; yet Mr. Gilpin observes, that the portals of the latter "are neither well shaped, nor well combined." The river Lune makes nearly an acute angle on the north side of the town, whence several regular streets proceed to the south, leaving the church and castle in some measure detached. Many of the former are narrow, but the houses are generally good, constructed of free-stone, and covered with slate †. Besides which there are several

\* Tour in Scotland, 4to. Vol. II. p. 25.

† For the annexed View of the Town, from a painting by Ibbetson, I am indebted and obliged to John Dent, Esq. M. P. for Lancaster.

several handsome mansions, the residence of men of independent fortune. An extensive quay, large warehouses, and many neat houses, have recently been erected; and some of the streets are well paved. Indeed the town of Lancaster is at present in a very improving and prosperous state. The public buildings, exclusive of those already mentioned, consist of a *chapel* dependent on the established church; in addition to which, the Quakers, Presbyterians, Methodists, and Roman Catholics, have each their respective places of worship.

Amongst the conveniences peculiar to this town, the *Shambles* deserve particular notice, as they resemble a street, where every butcher occupies a shop, with his name inscribed over the door. An ancient *Bridge*, now in ruins, connected the opposite shores of the Lune, near St. George's quay, but the increasing opulence and population of the town, rendered a new and more commodious one necessary. This was erected from the extremity of Cable-street to Skerton, at the expence of nearly 12,000*l.* which was paid by the county. The design was by Mr. Harrison; and the arches, of equal size and elliptical, are five in number: the length of this superb structure is 549 feet. Lancaster contains a *Theatre*, situated in St. Leonard's gate; and an *Assembly-room* in Buck Lane. The latter place is also the site of twelve *Alms-houses*, founded March 2nd, 1715, for twelve poor men, who receive sixteen shillings and eight-pence per quarter, and new coats annually. These are the charitable acts of William Penny, Alderman. In addition to this, the town is distinguished by several other benevolent institutions, particularly four alms-houses, called *Gardner's chantry*, founded in 1485, and rebuilt in 1792; six other alms-houses were founded in 1651 by George Johnson; and Common Garden-street *Hospital*, consisting of eight houses for maiden ladies, who are allowed 3*l.* per annum, and a new gown each, for which they are indebted to the donation of Mrs. Ann Gillison of Lancaster, who died at the age of seventy-two, in 1790. The inhabitants, long impressed with a just sense of the value of mental improvement, have at different periods established a Free-school, and two Charity-schools; the first, for the education of sixty boys, was



rebuilt by subscription in 1682, under the auspices of Bishop Pilkington, and has a master and an assistant.

One of the Charity-schools is for fifty boys, who are clothed, educated, and allowed the sum of 6l. as an apprentice fee. The master of the school receives an annual salary of 35l. and a residence, from the amount of the voluntary subscriptions which support the school.

The other school, supported by similar means, is situated in the High-street, where forty girls are clothed and educated.

The Manufactories of the town are inconsiderable, and chiefly consist of cabinet making, spinning of twine, cotton printing, and weaving of sail-cloth. Ship-building has been greatly encouraged, and many large vessels constructed, particularly by Mr. Broockbank, who has sent ships, launched at his dock-yard, to London, of 450 tons burthen. Unfortunately for the traders of Lancaster, the river Lune is obstructed by shoals, which, in their present undisturbed state, prevent vessels of considerable bulk from approaching within six miles of the town; nor can those above 250 tons reach the quays. Lancaster trades to America with hard-ware and woollen manufactures, in vessels of seventy tons. Forty or fifty ships trade also to Norway. Besides the cabinet goods, a considerable quantity of candles are exported to the West Indies. Much wheat and barley is imported. It appears from the custom-house entries, that in the year 1799, fifty-two vessels cleared out of this river for the West Indies, with 11,669 tons of goods, in more than 90,000 packages. These cargoes were estimated at a value of two and a half millions of pounds sterling. The *Custom-House* is a small neat building, with a portico supported by four Ionic columns. Each of these is fifteen feet and a half high, and consists of a single stone. It was designed by Mr. Gillow, architect.

Nearly in the centre of Lancaster is the *Town-Hall*, a large commodious building, ornamented with a bold portico, which was designed by Major Jarrat. In the Council-room is a full length portrait of the gallant *Admiral Nelson*, painted by Mr. Lonsdale, an artist of very promising talents, who is a native of this town. This gentleman



gentleman presented it to the corporation, who have since ordered a full length portrait of that eminent statesman, *Mr. Pitt*, as a proper companion.

The *borough* of Lancaster originated from a grant made in the fourth year of the reign of Richard the First; and members were first sent to Parliament in the twenty-third of Edward the First. Others were returned the twenty-sixth, thirty-third, and thirty-fifth of the same king's reign; and again in the eighth and nineteenth of Edward the Second, and the first, second, third, and fourth of Edward the Third, from whose reign, till that of Edward the Sixth, no members were returned. After this period it was restored, with Preston, Wigan, and Liverpool. The returning officers are the mayor and two bailiffs. It has been already mentioned that King John granted the burgesses privileges similar to those possessed by the citizens of Bristol, to which Edward the Third added permission for the mayor and bailiffs to hold the Pleas and Sessions at Lancaster, and no where else in the county. The corporation is composed of a Mayor, Recorder, twelve Aldermen, two Bailiffs, twelve Capital Burgesses, twelve Common Burgesses, a Town Clerk, and two Serjeants at Mace. Lancaster contains 1611 houses, and 9030 inhabitants.

In the vicinity of this town is an excellent *Salt-marsh*, adjoining the banks of the river Lune; of which about five hundred statute acres belong to eighty of the oldest freemen of Lancaster, or their widows, being held in trust by the corporation. This marsh is pastured, and divided into what are termed *orl grasses*; that is, a privilege of turning one horse, or two cows, of any size, to summer upon this common: a poney being reckoned equal to two oxen, however small the horse or large the ox. The number of grasses, or gates, is equal to that of privileged burgesses, with two more for the trustees; eighty-two in the whole, which, if let, are worth at present from 1l. 10s. to 1l. 11s. 6d. each per summer. They would not, seven years ago, have produced twenty shillings. This marsh is so fertile, that, if divided into fields of proper size, it would immediately be worth three pounds per acre, per annum; and if judiciously improved, five pounds.

By the late inland navigation, Lancaster has communication with the rivers Mersey, Ribble, Ouse, Trent, Darwent, Severn, Humber, Thames, Avon, &c. which navigation, including its windings, extends above five hundred miles into the counties of Lincoln, Nottingham, York, Westmoreland, Chester, Stafford, Warwick, Leicester, Oxford, Worcester, &c. All the country from Kendal, in the course of the Lancaster canal, for sixteen miles, is full of limestone; and from Chorley to West Houghton, there are immense mines of sea and cannel coals. The whole country north of Chorley, through which the canal passes, is very much in want of coals, and the country south of Lancaster is in want of lime; hence, by opening a communication between the port of Lancaster, and so large a tract of inland manufacturing country, this new navigation must materially benefit the whole, by improving the lands, manufactures, and commerce of this part of the kingdom.

About one mile north-east of the town is a grand **AQUEDUCT-BRIDGE**, which conveys the Lancaster-canal over the river Lune. This stupendous fabric was designed, and successfully executed, by Mr. John Rennie, civil engineer, who has hereby manifested the possession of much skill and science. It is justly considered the most magnificent structure of this kind that has ever been erected in Great Britain, and may fairly vie with any of the pompous works of the Romans. At the spot where the present bridge is built, the architect had to encounter and surmount depth of water in the bed of the river, and a soft muddy bottom. It was therefore found necessary to lay a foundation at the depth of twenty feet beneath the surface of the water. This consists of a flooring of timber, supported by piles 30 feet long. The foundation alone is said to have cost 15,000*l.* and the superstructure above double that sum, although the stone was obtained within about one mile and a half of the place. The bridge consists of five circular arches, springing from rusticated piers, with Gothic ends. Each arch is of seventy feet span, and rises thirty-nine feet above the surface of the river. The whole bridge has a handsome cornice, and every part of it is designed with strict regard to strength, durability, and elegance. The total height from the surface of the river to that of the canal,  
is



is fifty-one feet: and barges of sixty tons burthen pass over it.\* The successful execution of this amazing work is at once an honourable monument to the commercial spirit of the country, and to the talents of its architect.

Taking a northern course from Lancaster, I shall next proceed to describe the district called Furness, briefly noticing two or three places in the intermediate route. About one mile north of the former town is BEAUMONT HALL, the seat of *E. F. Buckley, Esq.*; and about one mile further is HALTON HALL, the seat of *W. B. Bradshaw, Esq.* At three miles from Lancaster is *Hestbank*, where the traveller who visits Furness, must forsake the firm beaten road, for trackless SANDS. These are fordable at low water, from the latter place, to a spot called the Carter, or Guides-House, a distance of about nine miles. From time immemorial it has been the custom to have a regular sort of chartered guide, called the *Carter*, to attend and conduct strangers across this roadless desert. He is maintained by the public, says Mr. Pennant, "and obliged, in all weathers, to attend here from sun-rise to sun-set." For many centuries the priory of Cartmel was under the necessity of providing a proper person for this charge, and received synodals and pater-noster to reimburse their expences; but since the dissolution of the monasteries, the duchy of Lancaster grants it by letters patent, to a trusty man, whose yearly allowance from the receiver-general is twenty pounds. His salary is however increased by a small donation left by a gentleman of Cartmel. For want of this "*Carter*," many obstinate, or careless people have lost their way, and their lives: for in case of darkness, fog, or unexpected tides, the situation is terrible, and the horrors of an overwhelming grave, affright and astound the bewildered traveller. Some instances of this kind have been related, but none more impressively distressing than the following fact, which is recorded in

E 3

"Gray's

\* The annexed view, representing the Aqueduct-Bridge, with the winding river; also the Bridge at Lancaster, with the town in the distance, is copied from a fine painting by Mr. W. Daniel, and was lent me by Mr. Rennie.



"Gray's Journal." "I crossed the river, and walked over the peninsula three miles, to the village of Poulton, which stands on the beach. An old fisherman mending his nets, (while I inquired about the danger of passing those sands,) told me, in his dialect, a moving story; how a brother of the trade, a *cockler*\*, as he styled him, driving a little cart, with his two daughters, (women grown) in it, and his wife on horseback following, set out one day to pass the seven mile sands, as they had been frequently used to do, (for nobody in the village knew them better than the old man did). When they were about half way over, a thick fog arose, and as they advanced, they found the water much deeper than they expected; the old man was puzzled; he stopt, and said he would go a little way to find some mark he was acquainted with; they staid a while for him, but in vain; they called aloud, but no reply: at last the young women pressed their mother to think where they were, and go on—she would not leave the place; at length she wandered about forlorn and amazed; she would not quit her horse and get into the cart with them: they determined, after much time wasted, to turn back, and give themselves up to the guidance of their horse. The old woman was soon washed off, and perished. The poor girls clung close to their cart, and the horse, sometimes wading, and sometimes swimming, brought them back to land alive, but senseless with terror and distress, and unable for many days to give any account of themselves. The bodies of the parents were found the next ebb; that of the father a very few paces distant from the spot where he had left them."

In the midst of these sands is the channel of the *Ken* or Kent river, and in other places are several smaller rivulets. These abound with the flat fish called *flook*, also salmon, &c. which are caught at proper seasons, by means of fixing nets across the channels, and these are examined at ebb tide. For a certain distance from shore the right of fishing in these streams belongs to the Earl of Derby; but beyond his bounds, the sands and fords are common property,

\* It is a common practice for old women, children, &c. to follow the ebbing tide, and pick cockles out of the sand.

property, and are free to all the sons and daughters of industry.

To embank and bring under cultivation this wide tract of sands, has often been recommended, and its utility has been urged with laudable patriotic warmth by several ingenious writers: but the vast expence attending such an undertaking, with the precariousness of most of those plans that have been directed against the powerful and capricious waves, have hitherto prevented the adoption of this scheme\*. An interesting account of this project, with calculations on the probable advantages, &c. was drawn up by Mr. Housman, for the Board of Agriculture: and is published in that gentleman's small volume, entitled "*A Descriptive Tour and Guide to the Lakes, Caves, Mountains, &c. of Cumberland, Westmoreland, Lancashire, &c.*" 1802.

The large tract of Sands already described, with another similar plain, occupy a space, which, in Ptolemy's time, bore the name of Moricambe, and is now called *Morecambe-bay*. This is formed by the Irish Sea to the south, and the irraguous shores of Lower Furness to the north and west, with a part of Lancashire to the east. A large tract of country, which forms most of the northern boundary of this bay, and is detached from any other part of Lancashire by the river Leven, &c. is known by the appellation of

#### FURNESS.

THIS portion of the county contains an area of about twenty-eight miles from north to south, by thirteen miles from east to west, and has the county of Cumberland for its eastern boundary, whilst that of Westmoreland skirts it to the north and east; and the irregular outline of its southern side is washed by the Irish

E 4

Sea.

\* Immense quantities of land have been detached and secured from the sea by means of Embankments. The instances of those at the mouth of the river *Dee*, near Chester, and at *Dugenhams* in Essex, are of great public utility, and individual advantage. An account of the latter is given in the 5th Volume of this work.



Sea. This district consists of an irregular and romantic mixture of high craggy hills, narrow vales, lakes, rivers, and brooks; and on the Cumberland border are some mountains of a wild, lofty, and romantic character. The southern extremity, which projects into the sea, and is called Lower-Furness, to distinguish it from the northern part, called High-Furness, contains a considerable tract of level fertile land, fronted by the singular bow-like *Isle of Walney*, which is of the same nature. Besides the main land, it comprehends the islands of Foulney and Walney, Roe, Sheep Pile, Old-barrow, &c.

We have no certain evidence of any Roman station in this part of the county, nor does it clearly appear that the *paved roads*, which Mr. West describes as Roman, were really made by that people: indeed the assertions and arguments of that author on this subject, require more decisive proofs than he has adduced. In the Domesday Survey, the name of Furness does not occur, yet almost every village in Low-Furness is mentioned, together with the land-owners, and the quantity of arable land belonging to each. From this authentic document, it appears that this part of the county was provided with "Sixty-six ploughs, exclusive of those which belonged to the Lords of the particular manors, and to their tenants. Furness, in the Conqueror's survey, is included within the west riding of Yorkshire, and in the division of Hougum: so is all the north of Lancashire, and the south of Westmoreland, with part of Cumberland\*." As many further particulars relating to this district, are directly connected with the Abbey of Furness, and some of its towns, I shall proceed to describe the principal places, and subjoin such general accounts as may tend to illustrate the history, and antiquities of the whole. The first town, after passing the Sands, is

#### CARTMEL,

WHICH is situated in a narrow, and well wooded vale, nearly surrounded with bold hills, among which, the high ridge called Hampsfield-fell

\* West's "Antiquities of Furness."



Hampsfeld-fell overhang it to the east. The town of Cartmel, with the peninsulated land comprehended between the rivers Leven and Winster, to the east and west, with the bay of Morecambe to the south, is not included within the liberties of Furness. The high antiquity of this district, with a town in it called *Sudged-luit*, is identified by a grant of *Egfrid*, a king of the Northumbrians, who reigned between the years 670 and 685, and who gave the whole, with all the Britons on it, to St. Cuthbert. In the year 1188, a *Priory* was founded here by *William Mareschal*, Earl of Pembroke, who endowed it for Canons regular of the order of St. Augustine. Amongst the privileges of this religious foundation, it had the exclusive right of appointing a guide to direct travellers over the neighbouring dangerous sands. After the dissolution, the inhabitants of the town adopted the spirited determination of purchasing the Monastic Church, which was afterwards made parochial; and through this circumstance a very beautiful structure, in the pointed style of architecture, and of a cruciform plan, has been preserved from devastation. It has a centre tower of two square gradations, placed one above another diagonally, and is supported by four central clustered pillars. The nave is more modern than the rest of the building. The choir is ornamented with handsome stalls, the canopies and pillars of which are decorated with carved foliage, &c. These are supposed to have belonged to the Canons before the dissolution. The east window is forty-eight feet high, by twenty-four feet in width, and is enriched with mullions and tracery. It has been filled with painted glass. The length of the church is 157 feet, that of the transepts 110 feet, and the height of the walls 57 feet. The *Preston* family of Holkar-Hall, about the year 1700, contributed largely towards the repairs and decorations of this church. A stone within the church is inscribed with the name of *William de Walton*, Prior of Cartmel, who is supposed to have been the first or second Canon who held that office. A magnificent monument, with the recumbent effigies of a Knight, cross legged, and his lady, under a rich canopy, was probably intended for Sir *John de Harrington*, who was summoned to meet Edward the First at Carlisle, in 1305,

to

to attend him into Scotland\*. Another was erected by *Christopher Rawlinson* †, to his parents, whose mother was a direct descendant from Edward the Fourth. Here are some fine monuments in commemoration of different branches of the Lowther and Preston families of Holker-Hall; and on a small marble slab in the south wall, is an ancient Epitaph in verse on *Ethelred Thornborough*, who was of an ancient family of *Hampsfield-Hall*, near Cartmel. The poetry is curious. On the monument of *Mr. J. Robinson*, is recorded a donation of twenty pounds, the interest arising from which is always to be given to the Guide over Lancaster Sands. Attached to this church are five Chapelries; i. e. at *Staveley*, six miles north; *Cartmel-fell*, six miles north-east; *Lindal*, three miles east; *Broughton*, two miles north; and *Flockburgh*, which is two miles south. All the livings are in the gift of Lord George Cavendish.

The streets of Cartmel are narrow and irregular. Besides the church, here is a *Free-Grammar School*, well endowed; and its School-House was rebuilt in 1790. *Cartmel-well*, or spring, about three miles south of the town, issues from the base of a projecting rock, and is of a brackish taste. Having the reputation of being serviceable in scorbutic cases, occasions a considerable influx of company during the summer months.

About four miles north-west from Cartmel is *BIGLAND*, the seat of *George Bigland, Esq.* The house and grounds are pleasantly situated, near a small piece of water; and from the higher lands very extensive views are obtained over *Furness-fells*, *Leven Sands*, the pile of *Fouldrey*, &c. In the kitchen at Bigland is an inscription on the chimney-piece, with the following letters and figures: I. B. 1161. From this, some persons have erroneously ascribed the carving to that era.

At

\* Dugdale's Baronage, Vol. II. p. 99.

† This gentleman, who resided at Clark-Hall in this county, made large Topographical Collections relating to Westmoreland and Cumberland; copies of which are at Rydal. Gough's British Topography, Vol. II. p. 311.



At a short distance west of Cartmel is HOLKER-HALL, one of the seats of *Lord George Cavendish*, who succeeded the Lowther family, and that the Prestons in this Demesne and Lordship. The house is a large irregular building, forming two right angled sides of a triangle, and has been partly fronted in the "Gothic style." The park is finely wooded, and from its rocky hills commands some grand and highly picturesque views. The interior of this ancient mansion contains a large collection of pictures; some of which are fine, and curious. Among the PORTRAITS are likenesses of the following persons: DUCHESS of CLEVELAND, who was one of King Charles the Second's mistresses; by *Lely*. Mr. Pennant characterises this royal courtesan by the terms of beautiful, abandoned, vindictive, and violent.

ADMIRAL PENN, half length: dressed in black, with a cravat and sash, long hair, and, as Mr. Pennant remarks, "of a good honest countenance." This gentleman was advanced, early in life, to the highest naval appointments; was a Captain at the age of twenty-one; Rear-Admiral of Ireland at twenty-three; General in the first Dutch war at thirty-two; disgraced and imprisoned by Cromwell for his unsuccessful attempt on St. Domingo, though he added, in that expedition, *Jamaica* to the British crown. On the restoration, he commanded under the Duke of York, in the same ship, at the great naval engagement of 1665, when the laurels of the first day were blasted by the unfortunate inactivity of the second; "for *where princes are concerned*, the truth of miscarriages seldom appears. He soon afterwards retired from the service, and died at the early age of forty-nine\*."

Sir JAMES LOWTHER, of whom the same writer observes, that he was "a character too well known to be dwelt on:" but Mr. Warner says, he "was well known for his extreme penuriousness, which obtained him the appellation of *Farthing Jemmy*†."

THOMAS WRIOTHESLY, Earl of Southampton; a head. This upright

\* Pennant's "Tour in Scotland," Vol. II. p. 28.

† A Tour through the Northern Counties, 8vo. 1802.



upright nobleman was the staunch friend of Lord Clarendon, and virtuous treasurer of the first years after the Restoration.

VANDYCK, when young, by himself.

LORD RICHARD CAVENDISH, by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

SIR THOMAS RISTON, an ancient proprietor of Furness Abbey and Manor.

Among the Pictures, the following are esteemed works of merit: Two *Landscapes* by Claude; and one by Zuccarelli; two Interior Views of Churches, one by day-light, and the other represented under the effect of lamp-light; by P. Neefs, with figures, said to be by Elshiemer.

ST. FRANCIS D'ASSIZE, kneeling. This is a fine, and very impressive picture, in the style of Spagnoletto.

Two *Large Landscapes*, by Claude: a Party of Peasants playing at Cards, by Teneirs.

Two Pictures, by Wouverman.

Two fine Battle Pieces, by Borgognone.

An Historical Picture, by N. Poussin.

A Landscape and Cattle, by RUBENS; with a gleam of sun seen through the trees. This has been engraved.

A Landscape, by Hobbima.

In the vicinity of Holker is FLOOKBOROUGH, which was once a market town, and had a charter granted it by King Edward the First; but is now reduced to a small village. Near this place, according to the statement of Mr. West, is a noted *Spa*, called the *Holy-well*, the water of which is esteemed of service in most cutaneous diseases.

The direct and nearest road from Cartmel to Ulverston, Dalton, &c. is across another bay, or creek, called the *Leven-Sands*. This passage, like that over the Lancaster Sands, is precarious, and a Carter, or guide, is always stationed here to conduct the stranger through the bed of the river. At spring-tides, the water is sometimes fifteen feet above the level of those sands. Nearly in the midst of these sands is a small insulated tract called *Chapel-Island*, where are a few remains of an ancient *Oratory*, or chapel, supposed

posed to have been built by the monks of Furness, and provided with a priest, whose office was to offer up daily prayers for the safety of passengers. About midway between the shores, the united waters of the Leven and Creke rivers pass to the sea, and are fordable, with a smooth sandy bottom, when the tide is out. The scenery around this flat tract, is diversified, grand, and awful; and, according to the different seasons, or as seen under the influence of clear, cloudy, or stormy weather, assumes an almost endless change of effects. To the south, the retiring sea, uniting its silvered edge with the shining sand, is seen forming a long straight line, with gleams of light and streaks of shade, and studded with different sized vessels, whose masts and sails intersect the hazy horizon; whilst the promontories and creeks of the Lancashire coast terminate the prospect to the south-east. The view to the north presents a very different aspect; for here the rugged shores, with the towering mountains, spotted with tracts of woodland and heath, constitute a scene of much grandeur and sublimity. About one mile from the carter's house, on the western side of these sands, is

#### ULVERSTON,

A neat and ancient market town, the capital and mart of Furness. This is pleasantly situated on a declivity towards the south, at the distance of about a mile from an arm of the bay of Morecambe, called Leven Sands, whence vessels of one hundred and fifty tons burthen come up to the port at high water. The principal trade of this place is in iron ore, pig and bar iron, limestone, blue slate, oats, barley, and beans; which last has been sent to Liverpool, in large quantities, for the food of the negroes in the Guinea trade. In 1774, seventy ships were employed by this town in the coasting trade. The manufactures carried on here are cotton, check, canvas, and hats. Ulverston obtained a charter from Edward the First, in the eighth year of his reign, for a weekly market and annual fair; but was not much benefited by this grant, while Furness Abbey was inhabited by the monks, as the

great



land; also into Ireland, Scotland, America, &c. The above named George Fox, who is admitted to be the founder of this sect, having seceded from the protestant church, left his natal soil\*, and first attracted public notice at Derby, in 1650. Here he was imprisoned for profanely addressing the congregation after divine service; and during his examination before the magistrate, he commanded the company to *tremble* at the voice of the Lord; whence both himself and his followers were jeeringly called *Quakers*. Having regained his liberty he proceeded northward, and zealously proclaimed his mission, doctrines, and tenets. These being novel and singular, were adopted by some persons, and scouted by others. After encountering many obstacles, he reached the district of Furness; and during the absence of Judge Fell, prevailed on his wife and family to embrace his opinions. This was in the year 1652. The Judge, on his return home, manifested some displeasure towards the new preacher, and opposition to his principles; but the latter persevered, and at length converted the Judge also. George now secured himself within the home, and influence of Mr. Fell, who established a weekly meeting in his house; and accompanied the preacher in some of his spiritual excursions. "At Gleaston, Dendron, and Hampside, he was well received; at Ulverston, Cocken, and Northscale in the Isle of Walney, he not only met with opposition, but abuse, to the imminent danger of his life. Judge Fell, after being convinced of the rectitude of his principles, was ever a steadfast friend; but death terminated his suffrage in September, 1658†." Eleven years after this event, George married the Judge's widow, who survived her second husband about eleven years, and died at Swartinoor-Hall, in 1702, in the 88th year of her age.

*Swart*, or *Swartz-moor*, appears to have obtained its name from one *Martin Swartz*, who, with an army of Germans, encamped here in the year 1487, in order to collect forces in these parts, before

\* He was born in Leicestershire; and some memoirs of him will be given in the course of describing that county.

† The Antiquities of Furness, edited by W. Close, 8vo. 1805, p. 402.



fore his attempt to wrest the crown from Henry the Seventh. He was supported by Sir Thomas Broughton, a gentleman of this neighbourhood, who escaping afterwards from the battle of *Stoke*, like *Owen Glendower*, lived many years (when he was supposed to have been slain) in great obscurity, supported by his faithful tenants in Westmoreland.

About three miles south-west of Ulverston are the exhausted **WHITRIGG IRON MINES**, which formerly, and at a very remote period, produced large quantities of ore. Others, equally productive, have been opened on **LINDALE-MOOR**. The Iron Mines of this district were called, by Mr. West, the *Peru of Furness*, as they formerly constituted a valuable property; but from the increased expence attending the conveyance of fuel, they are now depreciated in value. The woods of High-Furness formerly supplied the furnaces with charcoal, for smelting the ore; but this fuel has been sometimes obtained from the Hebrides. From the appearance of the ground here, it is evident that the Iron-works are very ancient, and by a grant of William of Lancaster, Lord of Kendal, to the priory of Conishead, he conveys the mine of *Plumpton* "*libero introitu et exitu ad duos, equos cum hominibus, minem carianدام, &c. \**"

#### DALTON

Is a small market town, pleasantly situated in the midst of a tract of country scarcely to be equalled for fertility and cultivation. Its name was probably given by the Saxons, from its situation being near several dells or vallies; but obtained its chief support and historical consequence from its vicinity to, and connection with Furness-Abbey. King Stephen contributed greatly to the importance of this town, which, by the privilege granted to the abbot, became the capital of Furness, and held that rank till the dissolution of the monastery; after which, its consequence diminished, and Ulverston, being a more favourable situation for trade,

• VOL. IX.

F

gradually

\* Dugdale, Vol. II. p. 425.

gradually attained a superior state of commercial pre-eminence. Dalton consists of one principal street, which ascending to the west, terminates in a spacious market place. The appearance of the town is of late much improved; as some of the old houses have been rebuilt and covered with slate. Being situated on an eminence of limestone, much inconvenience is experienced in obtaining soft water, which is brought by hand from a small brook in the adjoining valley. A charter for a weekly market on Saturdays, and an annual fair, was granted by Edward the Third. The market is seldom held for grain, except when it is at a very advanced price. Wheat and oats are generally sent to Ulverston, or other markets; and barley is never sold in public, but carried to the maltsters: malt-making is the only trade carried on here to any great extent. The ancient fair is held October 23d; another on June 6th; and a third, established in 1803, on April 28th, for cattle, and for hiring servants.

On the west side of the town is a rocky eminence, crowned with a square tower of an ancient CASTLE, which was probably built by the abbots of Furness, to guard the northern approach to the Abbey. In this fortress, the chief of that religious house held his secular court, and secured his prisoners. At present, the building contains three floors, and is appropriated to the courts-leet, and baron of the Duke of Buccleugh and Lord Beaulieu, who are the chief lords of the liberty and manor of Furness.

The CHURCH is a small neat building, and contains an organ, the expence of which was defrayed by voluntary contribution. The parish of Dalton is divided into four portions, or townships, and the customary tenements in each are of equal size, pay the same yearly rent to the lords, cannot be divided by the proprietor, and are not deviseable by will. Every tenant used formerly to furnish the abbot with a man and a horse for the service of the king. Dalton has been noted for its *annual hunts*; and here are some large rooms, which were built by gentlemen who resorted to this place, from different parts of the country, to enjoy the sports of the chace. This jubilee was formerly denominated the *Dalton-route*,



route, as appears from an advertisement in the London Gazette for the year 1703.

In the year 1631, the plague broke out at Dalton, and at Bigger in the Isle of Walney, and in a few months produced a melancholy devastation; for it appears by an entry in the parish register, that there "died in Dalton of this sickness three hundred and three-score, and in Walney one hundred and twenty." It began in July, and did not cease till about the Easter following.

On the top of an eminence called *High-Haume*, about a mile to the north of Dalton, is a circular mound, partly surrounded by a trench, and appears to have been a fortified beacon. According to the population reports printed for the House of Commons, "Dalton in Furnace" is stated to contain 56 houses, and 303 inhabitants; whilst Dalton, an hamlet in the same hundred, is said to have 224 houses, and 1052 inhabitants. At a place in this town called the Beck-side, GEORGE ROMNEY, a painter of considerable eminence, was born on the 15th of December, 1734.

At an early period, young Romney manifested various traits of genius: and during his apprenticeship to his father, who was a cabinet maker, &c. George was frequently employed in sketching on the walls, carving the goods, and decorating the furniture. He also soon evinced a propensity to music, by making flutes, violins, &c. on which he performed various tunes. One of these violins he preserved to the latest period of his life; and it is said to have been a well toned instrument: on the back of which was a specimen of his early carving. In the humble pursuit of carving, gilding, and cabinet-work, Romney continued ten years, when he was accidentally sent into the world; and his ruling passion directed into a channel more congenial to its propensity. An itinerant painter, of the name of *Steele*, was fixed on as a master and instructor to young Romney; and to this poor sign-dauber was George bound for a term of years. How unlike this to the situation of the more fortunate Roman and Venetian artists; who, having the inspiring works of great masters before their eyes in the public churches, have generally also had the advantage of their experienced precepts, whence the road to fame was to them



open, free, and plain; but Romney, like several other English artists, had neither of these important, and almost necessary assistants. True genius, and laudable enthusiasm, generally surmount difficulties, and acquire additional vigor by encountering obstacles.

The young painter being settled at York, soon attracted the attention of Lawrence Sterne, whose warm approbation recommended him strongly to public notice and esteem. This excited jealousy in the master, and a parting ensued. Romney returned to Lancashire, and though deprived of the advantage of old pictures, he pursued his professional studies; and produced, in this obscure part of the island, several paintings; among which was one representing the story of the *Death of David Rizzio*. He also painted several scenes from Sterne's *Tristram Shandy*. It is incompatible with the brief nature of this work, to follow the progressive history of our artist: suffice it to say, that in the year 1762, he settled in the British metropolis: (the great focus of genius, taste, and science.) At first he experienced some difficulties; but after travelling to France, Italy, &c. he ultimately succeeded to great practice as a portrait-painter; and also executed a great number of historical and fancy pictures. Declining in years, and in health he retired to his native county, where he died on the 15th of November, 1802, and was interred at Dalton. As a private member of society, Romney was distinguished for numerous eccentricities of manners; but was honest, sincere, and warm in his selected friendship. As an artist he acquired very considerable eminence; and divided the tributes of fashion with Reynolds and Gainsborough. His painting rooms were thronged with noblemen, judges, the literati, and ladies; and of those he painted an immense number of portraits, and began many more, for he was naturally very industrious. It was a singular trait in his professional character, that he commenced and proceeded to different stages, with several heads, at the same time many of which he at last left unfinished. Some of his finished portraits evince a considerable share of taste and talent, with an eye true to nature: and some of his fancy and historical pieces are designed and executed in  
a style



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for the Trustees of the British Museum

from the original in the possession of the Trustees



a style of originality, dignity, and elegance. Fuseli remarks that Romney "was made for the times, and the times for him. If he had not genius to lead, he had too much originality to follow; and whenever he chose, he was nearer to the first, than to the last of his competitors. Practice had given him rapidity of execution, and nature an eye sufficiently just for form, and not ungenial for colour \*." Mr. Hayley paid a handsome compliment to his friend Romney, in addressing a poem to him, entitled, "A poetical epistle to an *Eminent Painter*, with notes;" wherein the artist is greeted with much poetical encomium, and hailed as one

" Whom Art has chosen, with successful hand,  
To spread her empire o'er this honor'd land."

Before Romney left London, Mr. Shee painted a fine and faithful portrait of him, which has been engraved by Mr. Bond for an Historical and Biographical work now preparing for the press†.

**FURNESS ABBEY.**—The ruins of this once extensive and rich monastery, stand on the banks of a small rivulet, in a narrow and fertile vale, at the distance of one mile and a half south of Dalton. The following description, by Mrs. Radcliffe, will furnish the reader with a lively and impressive idea of the ruins, and of the surrounding scenery:—

"The deep retirement of its situation, the venerable grandeur of its gothic arches, and the luxuriant, yet ancient trees, that shadow this forsaken spot, are circumstances of picturesque, and if the expression may be allowed, of sentimental beauty, which fill the mind with solemn, yet delightful emotion. This glen is called the vale of nightshade, or, more literally from its ancient title Bekansgill—'the glen of deadly nightshade,' that plant being abundantly found in the neighbourhood. Its romantic gloom, and sequestered privacy, particularly adapted it to the austerities of

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monastic

\* Pilkington's "Dictionary of Painters," 4to, 1805, p. 465.

<sup>†</sup> This will be published by Longman and Co. in the course of next year.

monastic life; and in the most retired part of it, King Stephen, while Earl of Mortaign and Bulloign, founded, in the year 1127, the magnificent monastery of Furness, and endowed it with princely wealth, and almost princely authority, in which it was second only to Fountain's Abbey, in Yorkshire. The windings of the glen conceal these venerable ruins, till they are closely approached; and the bye-road that conducted us is margined with a few ancient oaks, which stretch their broad branches entirely across it, and are fine preparatory objects to the scene beyond. A sudden bend in this road brought us within view of the northern gate of the Abbey, a beautiful Gothic arch, one side of which is luxuriantly festooned with nightshade. A thick grove of plane trees, with some oak and beech, overshadow it on the right, and lead the eye onward to the ruins of the Abbey, seen through this dark arch in remote perspective, over rough but verdant ground. The principal features are the great northern window, and part of the eastern choir, with glimpses of shattered arches and stately walls beyond, caught between the gaping casements. On the left, the bank of the glen is broken into knolls, capped with oaks, which in some places, spread downwards to a stream that winds round the ruin, and darken it with their rich foliage. Through this gate is the entrance to the immediate precincts of the Abbey, an area said to contain 65 acres, now called the Deer-park. It is inclosed by a stone wall, on which the remains of many small buildings still appear; such as the porter's lodge, mills, granaries, ovens, and kilns, that once supplied the monastery; some of which, seen under the shade of the fine old trees that on every side adorn the broken steeps of this glen, have a very interesting effect.

"The Abbey, which was formerly of such magnitude as nearly to fill up the breadth of the glen, is built of a pale red stone, dug from the neighbouring rocks, now changed by time and weather to a tint of dusky brown, which accords well with the hues of plants and shrubs that every where emboss the mouldering arches. The finest view of the ruin is on the east side, where, beyond the vast shattered frame that once contained a richly-painted window,



is seen a perspective of the choir and of distant arches, remains of the nave of the Abbey, closed by the woods. This perspective of the ruin is said to be 287 feet in length; the choir part of it is in width only thirty-eight feet inside, but the nave is seventy; the walls, as they now stand, are fifty-four feet high, and in thickness five. Southward from the choir extend the still beautiful, though broken, pillars and arcades of some chapels, now laid open to the day; the chapter-house, the cloisters, and beyond all, and detached from all, is the school-house, a large building, the only part of the monastery that still boasts a roof.

"Of a quadrangular court on the west side of the church, 384 feet long, and 102 feet wide, little vestige now appears, except the foundation of a range of cloisters, that formed its western boundary, and under the shade of which the monks, on days of high solemnity, passed in their customary procession round the court. What was the belfry is now a huge mass of detached ruin, picturesque from the loftiness of its shattered arches, and the high inequalities of the ground within them, where the tower, that once crowned this building, having fallen, lies in vast fragments, now covered with earth and grass, and no longer distinguishable but by the hillock they form. The school-house, a heavy structure attached to the boundary wall on the south, is nearly entire, and the walls, particularly of the portal, are of enormous thickness, but, here and there, a chasm discloses the staircases, that wind within them to chambers above.

"These are the principal features that remain of this once magnificent Abbey. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and received a colony of monks from the monastery of Savigny, in Normandy, who were called Grey Monks, from their dress of that colour, till they became Cistercians, and, with the severe rules of St. Bernard, adopted a white habit, which they retained till the dissolution of monastic orders in England.

"The deep forests, that once surrounded the Abbey, and overspread all Furness, contributed with its insulated situation, on a neck of land running out into the sea, to secure it from the depredations of the Scots, who were continually committing hostilities



on the borders. On a summit over the Abbey are the remains of a beacon, or watch-tower, raised by the society for their further security. It commands extensive views over Low Furness, and the bay of the sea immediately beneath; looking forward to the town and castle of Lancaster, appearing faintly on the opposite coast; on the south, to the isles of Walney, Foulney, and their numerous islets, on one of which stands Peel-castle; and on the north, to the mountains of High-Furness and Coniston, rising in a grand amphitheatre round this inlet of the Irish Channel.

"The sum total of all rents belonging to the Abbey immediately before the dissolution was 946*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* collected from Lancashire, Cumberland, and even from the Isle of Man; a sum which, considering the value of money at that period, and the woods, meadows, pastures, and fisheries, retained by the society in their own hands—the quantity of provisions for domestic use brought by the tenants instead of rent, and the shares of mines, mills, and salt-works, which belonged to the Abbey—swells its former riches to an enormous amount\*."

From the first establishment of this Abbey, till the period of its dissolution, the Abbot was invested with many privileges, and exercised a commanding superiority over the whole district. Even the military establishment depended on him, and every mesne lord, and free homager, as well as the customary tenants, bound themselves to him by an oath of fealty. Every occupier of a whole tenement furnished a man and horse for guarding the coasts; for the border service; or for any expedition against the common enemy of the king and kingdom. Thus the peculiar situation of this Abbey, and power of the Abbot, gave to the former a warlike character, very incompatible with the customs, and religious habits of the monks. In the calamitous contests between the houses of York and Lancaster, the Abbot supported the claims of the latter, and thereby obtained additional advantages to the Abbey from  
Henry's

\* For a copious account of Furness Abbey, &c. I refer the reader to "The Antiquities of Furness," by Mr. West; a new edition of which, "with additions," was published in 1805, by Mr. W. Close, of Dalton.

Henrys' the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth \*. After the dissolution by Henry the Eighth, the Abbey lands were sold, and some of the purchasers took possession, and resided on their estates, which occasioned very considerable alterations in the district. In the civil wars between King Charles the First and his parliament, the malignity of party politics produced violence and bloodshed, even in this sequestered part of the kingdom; as is plainly exemplified in the following document:—

"Thomas Park, of Millwood, high constable of Furness, his account of the troubles of Furness during the civil-war. April 19, 1642, I received the oath of high constable, and was discharged of my office at the quarter sessions, held at Lancaster, April 27, 1647. The time I was high constable was five years and eight days. In the first year began the civil war between king and parliament; and before the end of the fifth year the parliament conquered, and cleared the whole kingdom of England and Wales; and there was never heard of such troublesome and distracted times as these five years have been, but especially for constables. May 21, 1643, being Holy-Thursday, there came an army into Furness this day of 1000 horse, and 500 foot; Lord Molineux, and Sir George Middleton, Sir John Girlington, Colonel Tildisley, Mr. Dalton, with divers others of the country, being chief commanders. Our countrymen thought to have kept them out, but their captains giving them over, and they seeing such a huge army on Conished Sands, were wished by the heads of Furness to shift for themselves. They had three nights billet, most part of our arms, and 500*l.* and plundered this place very sore, and then retreated. This army was for the king. September 28, 1643, Colonel Rigby continuing his siege at Thurland Castle, (which continued six weeks before agreement was made,) was let know, that

\* This monarch, in his adversity, obtained a safe asylum with Sir John Pennington, at Muncaster; and, at parting, presented the family with a favourite glass cup; "which," says Mr. West, "from the general opinion of the king's sanctity, and that with it he entailed a blessing on the family, was called '*the luck of Muncaster*.'"



that Mr. Kirkby, Mr. Rigby, and Colonel Hudleston, were in commotion in Furness, and that they had gotten together 1500 horse and foot, many of them out of Cumberland; young Mr. Pennington being there with a company, and the rest of Furness: they were about 200 firemen, and the rest clubmen, and they kept their rendezvous at Dalton. Whereupon Colonel Rigby, at the earnest desire of divers of Furness, who fled thither, marched with seven or eight companies of foot, and three troops of horse, all firemen, except about twenty, who had pikes; they were all complete, and very stout fellows. I being prisoner at Hornby Castle at that time, and three weeks before, was appointed to go with the colonel; and the last of September they came to Ulverston, and rested there that night; and early the first of October, 1643, being Sunday, they set forward, and had prayers on Swartmoor; which being ended, they marched forward till they came to Lyndal, and there the foot halted, but the horse went on to Lyndal-Cotte, and drew up in a valley, facing, and shouting at Mr. Hudleston's horse, who were drawn up on the top of Lyndal Close, who did shout also in return; which lasted about an hour, while the foot were receiving powder, shot, and match; which being ended, the foot marched up to the horse; then the king's horse fled, whereupon they raised a great shout, and did pursue them very hotly; and took Colonel Hudleston prisoner, Mr. Stanley, and Mr. Latus, Mr. Earton, with 300 common soldiers, or thereabouts. They took most part of their arms, six colours, two drums, and all the money and apparel the common soldiers had on, with a coup laden with magazine, drawn by six oxen. The common soldiers plundered Dalton, and the parish, and returned that night to Cartmel. There were three or four of the king's men killed, and some hurt—"

GLEASTON-CASTLE.—The ruins of this ancient fortress are situated about two miles east of Furness Abbey; and at present display portions of three square towers, with some connecting walls. These encompass an area, or court yard, of 288 feet, by 168 and 132; at each corner of which were formerly fortified towers.



towers. The walls are thick, and constructed with mud, pebbles, &c.; and faced with lime-stone, laid in lime mortar. This Castle appears to have been a sort of baronial mansion, belonging to the manor of Aldringham. At the beginning of the reign of Queen Mary, it was possessed by the Duke of Suffolk, who being beheaded, his estates were confiscated to the crown. At a short distance from the Castle is a copious running spring, which, Mr. West observes, "if confined to one bason, would at least equal that at Holywell, in Flintshire."

ALDRINGHAM-HALL, formerly the residence of the Fleming family, is entirely swept away, and the ancient and once extensive *Village*, of the same name, is now reduced to only two houses, with the church between them. Here are some ancient *encampments*; one formed in a square shape, and another circular, with a foss and bank between them. The sea has greatly encroached on the land at this place. Near

URSWICK are two other ancient fortifications, called *Stone-Walls*. One is square, the other nearly circular; and both consisted of walls formed by stones piled up without mortar. Their foundations are very wide, and the circular area measures about 100 yards in diameter.

RAMPside, a small village on the southern shore of Furness, is occasionally resorted to as a pleasant and convenient bathing-place. The sands abound with roots, and remains of trees, hazle wood, &c.; and as Camden conjectured many years back, it is extremely probable that the islands to the south and west have been separated from the main land, and formed by the gradual encroachment of the tides. The islands are eight in number; among which, that of WALNEY is the most considerable. This consists of a long bank, or ridge, running north and south parallel to the lower part of Furness. Mr. West says, that the whole island "lies upon a bed of moss; and all round the island, moss is found by digging through a layer of sand and clay, which covers it; and in the moss large trees have been taken up. The Abbots of Furness charged themselves with the support of several dykes for its defence; but since the suppression of the Abbey, the

sea

sea has ravaged great part of it, and threatens to waste it entirely." This island has been, at different times, nearly inundated by the swelling tides; "yet," says Mr. West, "the inhabitants seem almost insensible of any danger, or loss. As a spur, however, to their industry, every tenant is charged with the lords rent for the whole island; so that if all, except one tenement, should be swallowed up by the sea, that one tenement must discharge the whole of the said rent." The island is about ten miles in length, by one in breadth, and has the appearance of a bank, or wall in the sea: hence it was called by the Saxons *Waghney*, *Woney*, and *Walney*. It contains two hamlets, called *Bigger*, and *North-Scale*; and has a chapel of ease under Dalton. At the southern extremity of the island is a light-house, which was erected in 1790, with stone obtained from a quarry at Overton, near Lancaster. It is about sixty-eight feet high; and its lamps and reflectors are made to revolve on a vertical axle by a piece of clock-work. Nearly opposite to this is another small island called the *PILE OF FOULDREY*, on which are the mouldering remains of an ancient *Castle*. According to Camden, this was built by an Abbot of Furness, in the first year of the reign of Edward the Third, and was probably intended to guard the coast in the neighbourhood of the Abbey; also to serve for a place of retreat, in case an enemy should drive the monks from their sacred monastery. This castle was formerly extensive, and strong, and consisted of several towers, with intermediate walls, which inclosed two court-yards. Near the southern end of the inner court, was the main-tower, or keep, a strong edifice; and in the outer ballia was a small chapel.

At North-scale are several *Wells* of *fresh* water, which are affected by the flux and influx of the tides; and the waters rise and fall with the fluctuating ocean. "The deepest wells begin to gain water about half flood; but those which perforate the higher part of the stratum are then empty, and do not receive their supply until about the time of high-water, and during the first part of the ebb-tide; for the fresh water will continue to accumulate until it attains the level of the salt water in the channel. These wells are situated close by the side of Walney channel, and are sunk into



a bed of sand before any water can be procured: hence it is reasonable to suppose, that the salt water is deprived of its saline particles by percolating through this arenaceous stratum\*."

## BROUGHTON

Is a small town, situated on the western borders of Furness, at the distance of about one mile from the estuary of the Duddon. The town is raised on the southern slope of a hill, and its houses, which are all built of stone, and tiled with slate, are disposed nearly in a regular square. This place has been greatly improved within a few years; and has a weekly market, and one fair annually; which are chiefly appropriated to the sale of woollen yarn, spun by the country people, sheep, short-wool, and black-cattle. The surrounding country is mountainous, and abounds in iron-ore, copper, slate, &c. On the north side of the town is an ancient *tower*, standing on the summit of a hill.

CONISTON-LAKE, or THURSTON-WATER, occupies an area of about seven miles in length from north to south, by three quarters in its greatest breadth from east to west. The shores of this lake are indented by several small bays, and its surrounding scenery consists of coppice-woods, small farms, and patches of rocky common rising from the shore, above which the mountains ascend to considerable eminence. At the north western end of the lake is the village of *Coniston*, behind which rise the romantic mountains called *Coniston-fells*. Mr. West recommends the traveller to view this lake first at its southern end, and by advancing northward, the surrounding scenery, with the most interesting features of the water and country, progressively display themselves. Mrs. Radcliffe calls it "the most charming lake" that she had seen during her tour. The greatest depth of the water is said to be forty fathoms; and among the fish, the char is most esteemed for its flavour. The fells of Coniston have produced great quantities

\* Close, in West's Antiquities of Furness, 8vo. p. 379.



tities of copper ore ; and very large slate quarries are now opened in these mountains.

CONISTON-HALL is an old mansion, almost covered with ivy, and seated near the western edge of the lake.

### HAWKSHEAD

Is a small market town, situated in a vale near the lake of Estwaite, at the northern extremity of this county, where it projects between those of Westmoreland and Cumberland. It is sheltered from the bleak winds by the over-hanging fells of Coniston. Being the principal town of Furness-Fells, Hawkshead is the centre where all the business is transacted, and the produce disposed of; and though it has no staple manufacture or trade, yet, from the concurrence of local circumstances, it has a considerable market, held on Monday, by a charter granted by James the First, who, by the same grant, established four annual fairs. The Church, which was formerly a chapel under Dalton, was made parochial towards the close of the sixteenth century, by Edwin Sandys, Archbishop of York, who was a native of this place: he also founded a free grammar school here, and endowed it with a revenue of 30*l.* per annum, which is now increased to upwards of 100*l.* One hundred boys are educated in this school, which is held in high estimation. A neat Town-house was lately built by subscription, towards which several merchants of London, who had received their education in this school, were the chief contributors. At Gallow-Barrow, an adjoining village, is a charity-house, endowed in 1717, by the will of the Reverend Thomas Sandys, curate of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London, for the maintenance of poor boys born in this town, who are to be educated in the free-school. Hawkshead, in 1801, contained 160 houses, and 634 inhabitants.

Near this town are the remains of a house where one or more monks, as representative of the Abbot of Furness, resided, and performed divine service, and other parochial duties. Over the gateway is a court-room where the Abbot's temporal rights and jurisdiction were exercised by the bailiff of Hawkshead.

DR. EDWIN SANDYS, already mentioned as a native of this town, was the son of William Sandys, Esq. of Estwaite in Furness; and after being educated at Cambridge, he attained the honors of Master of Catherine Hall, and Vice Chancellor of the University. By a sermon in defence of Lady Jane's right to the crown, he incurred the displeasure of Queen Mary, was deprived of his promotions, and imprisoned six months; after which he withdrew to Germany, till the queen's death, when he returned, and took an active part in the reformation of the church under Elizabeth, who advanced him to the see of Worcester; whence he was translated to that of London in 1570, and afterwards to the Archbishopric of York in 1576. He died July 10, 1588, at Southwell, and was buried in that collegiate church. His father and mother were interred in Hawkshead church.

In the vicinity of this town are the following *Seats*:—GRAITHWAITE-HALL, on the western banks of Windermere, is the seat of *Myles Sandys, Esq.* a descendant of Bishop Sandys, of whose family and genealogy a long account is given in West's Antiquities of Furness. LOW-HALL, in the same neighbourhood, is the seat of *William Raulinson, Esq.* a descendant of an old family in High-Furness. At CONISTON-WATER-HEAD is a seat of *George Knott, Esq.*; and at BELLMONT is a seat of the Rev. *Reginald Braithwaite, M. A.*

ESTWAITE-WATER, or LAKE, is about two miles in length, by half a mile in breadth; and is almost divided by two peninsulas, one of which projects from each of the shores. These are fringed with trees and coppice woods, and the scenery round the lake partakes more of the sylvan, than of the grand or romantic character. On the eastern side is a gentle slope partly covered with woods: and near the head of the lake is a small island of about two perches of land, covered with shrubs, &c. This formerly shifted its situation, and was driven about by every strong gust of wind; but has for some time been stationary. Perch, pike, eel, and trout, are found in this lake; but though its waters unite  
with



with Windermere, the char-fish has not hitherto been found here.

WINDERMERE, or WINANDERMERE, is a large lake on the eastern border of this county, dividing the district of Furness from Westmoreland. The water occupies an area of about fifteen miles in length, by one mile in width on an average. In some places the breadth is more, and in others it is not above 500 yards across. Near Newly-bridge it is fordable. "On the third and fourth of June, 1772, when the water was six feet below its greatest known height, and three feet above the lowest ebb, a trial was made to ascertain by soundings the depth and form of this lake, which is the largest in England, and supposed to be unfathomable. Its greatest depth was, however, found to be 201 feet, near Ecclesrig-crag. The bottom of the lake in the middle of the stream is a smooth rock; in many places the sides are perpendicular, and in some they continue so for a mile without interruption. The rivers Brathay and Rothay join at the west corner of the lake, called the Three-foot Brandreth, and form this vast reservoir. About four miles lower down, on the east side, Troutbeck river descends from the fells, and joins the mere. Estwaite-water also discharges itself into Windermere at Cunsey-beck \*." At its southern end this mere terminates at Newly-bridge, whence the waters usually fall with great rapidity through the channel of the Leven-river, and in their course form several cascades over the cragged rocks. From Newly-bridge, to the mouth of the Crake-river, a distance of about two miles, the water of the Leven falls nearly 105 feet. As the principal islands of this lake, and many of its local characteristics, are more directly connected with Westmoreland, than Lancashire, the whole of these will be hereafter described in the history of that county.

At CASTLE-HEAD, near Lindale, on the banks of the Winster river, is the beautiful modern seat of *John Wilkinson, Esq.* who has

\* West's Antiquities of Furness, 8vo. p. 35.



has laid out the grounds with much taste, and greatly improved the surrounding country.

The mountainous district, constituting all the northern part of Furness, is locally known by the name of *FELLS*; and these are distinguished from each other by the appellations of Coniston, Furness, and Cartmel. Wood has been very abundant on these eminences, and was generally cut down once in every fifteen years, to be charred, for the use of the furnaces and forges in the neighbourhood. The fells of Upper Furness have been called the *Apennines* of Lancashire; and at an early period were noted for their wild-game, deer, &c.; whence hunting has ever been a favorite diversion, and exercise of the lords of these domains. Previous to the union of Scotland and England, the borders of the two kingdoms were involved in almost perpetual warfare; and the robust sport of hunting has ever been considered the most appropriate diversion for the warrior; to whom the wild boar, the stag, and the wolf, have been generally considered to afford the best, and most noble objects of pursuit. The contiguity of High-Furness to Scotland, subjected its inhabitants to repeated attacks from the borderers of the latter kingdom; and the high fells, partly covered with woods, afforded shelter to the original wild beasts of the island. Whilst the former kept the lords of Furness in a state of constant vigilance, the latter, by inuring them to violent exercise and hardihood, prepared them to encounter and support military watchfulness, and military dangers. By some ancient grants recited in West's *Antiquities*, it appears that wolves, wild boars, wild deer, falcons, &c. were common in this district, and that Richard de Lucy, Lord of Egremont, who was Lord Chief Justice of England in the reign of Henry the Second, in a grant to Reginald Fitz-Adam, makes this reservation:—

"*Salvis mihi et heredibus meis cervo et cerva, apro et leia, et accipitre, quando ibi fuerint.*"

Besides the beasts, &c. here mentioned, there was an animal of the Deer species, called the *Segh*. In the year 1766, three heads of horns were taken up on Duddon sands, of a size much superior to those of any deer now known; they are supposed to be the

horns of the Scofe\* Stag, as they seem to agree with the description given of that animal by Camden. The largest of those heads had the horns fixed to the skull, which was entire. The length of the horn was three feet nine inches, the width between the extremity of the tips three feet seven inches and half, the round of the beam seven inches and half, and the breadth of the palm four inches.

Great alterations appear to have taken place in this district: for Mr. West observes, "In the seventh year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the woods being greatly reduced, certain blomaries in High-Furness were suppressed at the common request of the tenants of Hawkshead and Colton, that the tops and croppings of these woods might be preserved for the nourishment of their cattle in winter. The blomaries, or iron smithies, were then leased by Christopher Sandys, Gent. and William Sawrey, who paid twenty pounds annually to the queen for the wood they consumed. At the suppression of the blomaries, the tenants charged themselves, and their successors, with the payment of this rent, which is called the bloosmithy, or wood-rent, and is rated and assessed amongst the customary tenants, at the discretion of four and twenty of that body, elected by a majority of the whole. Since the beginning of the eighteenth century, the re-introduction of furnaces and forges, for making and working iron, has advanced the value of wood considerably, and the tenants have found the means of improving part of their lands into meadows, and preserving their woods for the use of the furnaces†." Among the trees of this district, the holly is sedulously cultivated and preserved; and its green leaves are given to the sheep during the long and hard winters.

#### HORNBY

Is a small market town, seated on the eastern banks of the river Lune, over which there is a stone Bridge of three arches. The views

\* A place in High Furness, noted for a breed of large deer or seghs.

† West's Antiquities of Furness, 8vo. p. 33. &c.



views down the valley are extremely fine, and the winding river, with its wooded banks, present various highly picturesque features. The cotton manufactures constitute the chief business of the place. A fair, or market, is held here every alternate Tuesday for cattle; and this, with an annual fair, occasion some bustle and trade in the town. A religious hospital, or priory, of Premonstratensian canons, was founded here, and made subject to the Abbey at Croxton, in Leicestershire. At the dissolution, it was granted to the Monteagle family, who possessed also an old baronial mansion called *Hornby-Castle*, which is seated on an eminence, about half a mile from the river. According to Camden, this "noble castle was founded by *N. de Mont Begon*, and owned by the Harringtons and Stanleys, barons of Mont-Eagle, descended from Thomas Stanley, first earl of Derby, who was advanced to that title by Henry the Eighth. Hornby castle is now the property and seat of *John Marsden*, Esq. and contains a large square tower, and a lofty round one. The church, which is subordinate to Melling, is neat, and distinguished by an octagonal tower. Hornby has only eighty-seven houses, and 414 inhabitants. About two miles north of this town is *THURLAND-CASTLE*, which formerly belonged to the Tunstal family, who took that name from a village so denominated. The church at Tunstal formerly belonged to the Abbey of Croxton, but is now a vicarage in the gift of the proprietor of Thurland Castle. At the breaking out of the civil wars, this fortified mansion, with its domain, belonged to *Sir John Girlington*, and by him was garrisoned for the king, in whose behalf it sustained a close siege for some time. A party of the king's forces came to relieve it, but were soon repulsed by some troops under Colonel Rigby, a Lancashire lawyer, and about Michaelmas, 1643, it was obliged to surrender.

"Girlington, stout Thurland his house maintain'd  
'Gainst a sharp siege; yet was at length constrain'd  
On terms for to surrender: Hornby too  
Had yielded to the now prevailing foe \*."

G 2

Sir

\* Cooper's Civil Wars, p. 91.



Sir John Girlington, who was colonel of a regiment of horse, was afterwards slain at Melton Mowbray, in Leicestershire. In 1719, this estate was possessed by *Paul Burrend*, Esq. and now belongs to a descendant of his family.

Near the village of *Kellet* is a natural curiosity called *DUNAL-MILL-HOLE*, which is a large cavern of very romantic aspect, and extends for nearly 200 yards into the bowels of the hill. The entrance to the cave is near a mill, which, with the accompanying scenery, is extremely picturesque. The mouth of the cavern "is romantically fringed with trees, which growing from the rocks, and impending over the entrance, contribute greatly to the awful gloom. Immense fragments of rocks hang from the roof of the orifice, as if ready to drop down, and crush the intruding visitor, forming altogether one of the rudest and most grotesque entrances imaginable. Nothing can be conceived more alarming than the appearance of this rugged cavern; the numberless large chinks and crevices grinning on every side; the dark passage before us unfathomable to the eye; the massy lumps of rock projecting from the roof and walls; and the dashing of the water from rock to rock, heard at a distance in awful yells—all conspire to alarm the stranger not accustomed to such scenes. This, however, is not always the case; for in dry seasons the cave may be explored, not only without danger, but with pleasure to those who are curious in viewing such singular works of nature\*." This cavern, like those at *Wokey*, Somersetshire, at *Castleton*, Derbyshire, and others in lime-stone hills, consists of several large and small apartments, or open spaces, with intermediate chasms: and its roof is hung with various stalactites and incrustations. A small rivulet which passes through, and issues from this cave, after running under ground for about two miles, again rises near the village of *Cornforth*, and there falls into *Morecambe-bay*. About five miles north of *Hornby* is the village of *OVERBOROUGH*, where the Roman station,

\* "A Descriptive Tour and Guide to the Lakes," &c. by John Housman, 8vo. 1802. p. 194.

station, called *Bremetonacae*, was fixed; and according to Mr. Rauthmell, the judicious historian of the place, "Julius Agricola chose this hill to build *Bremetonacae* upon; in the first century of christianity; and after it had been demolished by the Caledonian Picts of Scotland, it was again repaired and garrisoned by *Theodosius* in the fourth century\*." The evidences of this place having been a Roman station, are an *encampment* situated at the confluence of two streams or rivers, and *tesselated pavements*, inscriptions upon stones, old medals, &c. which have been found at different times. And that it was the *Bremetonacae* of Antoninus, is very satisfactorily proved by the arguments adduced by Mr. Rauthmell. This station is stated, in the tenth Iter of the Roman Geographer, to be XX miles north of *Coccium*, and XXVII miles south of *Galacum*. The latter station is fixed by Mr. Rauthmell at "Apulby," or Appleby in Westmoreland, which he says is "twenty-seven Italian miles, or between twenty-two and twenty-three English miles from this place;" and the same author says, that "all antiquarians are agreed in fixing *Coccium* at Ribchester," which in the line of the Roman road, he observes, is just twenty Roman, and about eighteen English miles from Overborough. The station being thus identified, he proceeds to develop its history, and describe its antiquities. Like the generality of Roman stations, this was formed near the junction of two rivers, having the Lac washing its southern banks, and the Lune running on the western side. On the eastern and southern sides the ramparts are still visible, but the others have been nearly obliterated by modern improvements. Among the fragments of antiquity found here, Mr. Rauthmell has represented, and described an *Altar*, which, he says, was "dedicated to the idol Magon, by a Roman lady, upon the recovery of her health." It was inscribed on one face, and on another was a basso-relievo of an owl; whilst the third face was marked with representations of two instruments used in the sacrificial ceremonies. The other relics are a "*bullæ aureæ*, a

G 3

*patra*,

\* "*Antiquitates Bremetonacenses*, or the Roman Antiquities of Overborough," 4to. 1746.



*patera*, and *præfericulum*," three urns, a coin of Flavius Vespasian in copper, a stylus, &c. At some distance east of Overborough, at a place called Gargrove, is a camp, which Mr. Rauthmell attributes to Agricola, and calls it a "*Castrum Aestivum*." Near this place a Roman tessellated pavement was discovered some years ago. The *Roman-roads* connected with this station may be still discovered in some places, and on the side of the road between Overborough and Lancaster, a *milliare*, or Roman mile stone, with an inscription, is still preserved. This very satisfactorily proves that a Roman road communicated between these two places. At Overborough is a seat of the *Fenwick* family, of whom Robert Fenwick, Esq. was M. P. for Lancaster, made a king's serjeant in the duchy court, and also attorney-general, and serjeant of the county palatine of Lancaster. To this gentleman, Mr. Rauthmell inscribed his little volume, with expressions denoting his own gratitude, and encomiastic to his patron, whose house and gardens stood "on the east side of the fortress."

Immediately on the coast, in the village of *Heysham*, are the ruins of a small ancient building, called *ST. PATRICK'S CHAPEL*. Its architecture is of very early character: and its entrance doorway has a semicircular arch, formed out of one stone, ornamented with fluted mouldings, running round the whole doorway. The building is very small, and seated on a rock. At a short distance from one end are four holes cut in the shape of stone coffins, out of the original rock; close to which is a natural bench or seat. The whole appears to have been formed as an oratory for a catholic priest, to offer up prayers for the souls of some shipwrecked persons who were cast away on this coast, and who were probably from Ireland.

At the distance of three miles south of Lancaster, is *ASHTON-HALL*, a seat of his grace the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon. This was formerly possessed by the family of the *Lawrences*, the last male heir of whom was Sir Robert Lawrence, Knt. whose coheiress, *Sibel*, married *Thomas Hesketh*, Esq. of *Rufford*. *Ashton-Hall*, with the estate of *Whittiker*, near *Garstang*; and  
other







the Old Governor of Maryland and his family - 1818

A. M. S. P. 1818

Engraved by J. H. B. from the original painting by J. H. B.

other property in Staffordshire, came into the present family, by the marriage of James, Earl of Arran \*, (created the fourth Duke of Hamilton, by patent, August 20th, 1697,) with Elizabeth, daughter and sole heir to Digby Lord Gerrard of Bromley. This Earl of Arran made a conspicuous figure during the reigns of Charles the Second, and James the Second, from both of whom he was deputed Envoy-extraordinary to the court of France. Besides many other posts of honour that were conferred on him by the above monarchs, he was made Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Lancaster in 1710, Custos-Rotulorum, and Ranger of the Royal Forests for the said county; also Admiral of the Sea-coasts; and in December of the same year, was sworn into the Privy Council of Queen Anne. In the next year he was created an English Peer, by the title of Duke of Brandon, in the county of Suffolk. In 1713, he fought a duel with Lord Mohun, and fell in the rencontre: but the second of his antagonist, a General Maccartney, was suspected of having slyly stabbed him; and a reward of 500 guineas was offered by the government, with 300l. by the Duchess, for his apprehension. Maccartney sought refuge in a foreign country, but was taken in Hanover, and after a trial for the murder in the court of King's-Bench, was only found guilty of manslaughter.

The mansion at Ashton is a large ancient building, with some square embattled towers; a spacious Hall, and other characteristics of an old baronial castle. It is seated in a fine park, through the middle of which, a small rivulet winds its course, and after forming a narrow bay at the western side of the grounds, falls into the estuary of the Lune. The park abounds with noble woods, and is diversified with hill and valley, and from some of its eminences very extensive and grand views are obtained across the river Lune, over to Morecambe-bay, to the Irish Sea, &c. Whilst the views to the east present some very fine sylvan and park scenery, those to the south-west and north-west unfold several

G 4 grand

\* A small head, by Vr. Gutch, has been engraved of this nobleman: and in Noble's "Biographical History of England," Vol. II. p. 60. is some account of him.



grand and interesting prospects of river, sea, headlands, and distant mountains. Though much alteration has been progressively made to the mansion, the present nobleman has carefully attended to its ancient character, in the reparations and improvements made, since it has been in his possession.

Among the portraits and paintings which decorate the rooms of this ducal residence are the following: A *portrait of Elizabeth GERRARD, Duchess of Hamilton*, represented in deep mourning. Portraits of the present Duke's two sons, the *Marquis of Douglass* and *Clydesdale*; and Lord *Archibald Hamilton*: both by Gainsborough, and the latter is extremely fine. Portrait of the present Duke when young, by R. MENGES: and another when his Grace was in his 64th year, by J. LONSDALE, an artist who was a pupil to Romney, and patronised by this nobleman\*. Portrait of the late *Duke of Bedford*, by HOPPNER.

A Head, by Rembrandt.

*Clelia escaping from the Roman Camp*, by RAPHAEL: a picture of great merit and beauty. This distinguished Lady being delivered as an hostage for the security of a truce to King *Por-senna*, contrived to make her escape, and swam across the Tiber on a horse. She was afterwards taken, and brought back to the monarch, who, in compliment to her courage, presented her with a horse richly caparisoned. The Romans have commemorated this event by a statue on horseback, which was preserved in the *Via-Sacra*.

A picture representing a *Boar-hunt*, by SNYDERS. This was in the possession of Gainsborough.

A large Landscape with figures, by BERGHEM.

A few small Pictures, by Teniers.

Some original Cartoons, designed by LEONARDO DA VINCI, for his much celebrated picture of the *Last Supper*.

Besides the above, here are many other pictures, of various merit; but the Duke, who has evinced much partiality for the fine arts, has his chief collection at Hamilton Palace, in Scotland.

About

\* This has been engraved in mezzotinto, by Clint,

About six miles south-west of Lancaster, are some remains of **COCKERSAND-ABBAY**, which was founded on the site of an hospital for Premonstratentian Canons, about the year 1190, by Theobald Walter, brother of Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, who gave all the pasture grounds in Pilling as perpetual alms for the building of the Abbey. This endowment was confirmed by King John, and with other donations and gifts, received a further confirmation and establishment by Richard the Second. The Abbey was situated on a neck of land which projects into the sea, adjoining to the sands of the river Cocker, from which its name is derived. It is fortified by a rock of red stone from the encroachments of the sea, and commands an extensive view over the sands. The buildings of this monastery are said to have covered nearly an acre of ground; but of these, the chapter-house only remains. This is an octangular room, the roof of which is supported by a single massive column rising in the centre. Buck engraved a view of this building. It is a peculiar circumstance in the history of this religious house, that within three years after its dissolution by Henry the Eighth, it was again restored to its ancient privileges, by a grant from that monarch. The estate, with the ruins, now belongs to *John Dalton, Esq.* whose manor-house, called **THURNHAM-HALL**, is seated on an eminence about two miles east of the Abbey. Part of this estate has liberty of free-warren.

**AMOUNDERNESS**, or **AGMUNDERNESS HUNDRED**, is separated from that of Lonsdale by a very irregular line on the north; having Blackburn, with a small part of Yorkshire, on the east; the river Ribble, constitutes a natural boundary to the south; whilst the whole of its western side is washed by the waters of the Irish Sea. The district included within these limits, consists of mosses, sea marshes, and low lands, to the west; and of mountains, or moors, on its Yorkshire side. The great Turnpike-road from Preston to the north of England, passes through the middle of this hundred: and another Turnpike-road communicates from the former town to Poulton, &c. The towns in this district are



Preston, Garstang, Kirkham, and Poulton. Of these, the most considerable in size, population, and elegance, is

### PRESTON,

WHICH is pleasantly situated on an eminence, rising from the northern banks of the river Ribble. This town is considered the most fashionable place in the county, and both within its boundaries, and immediate vicinity, are many large and elegant mansions. Formerly it was almost free from manufactures, but now, many spacious warehouses and extensive work-shops are erected here. Respecting the antiquity of the town, very little is recorded; though Camden remarks that it arose out of the ruins of *Ribchester*, a celebrated Roman station, which was situated farther up the river. It is said to have derived its name from the number of religious houses founded here, and hence called *Priests-town*; afterwards contracted to *Prest-town*, *Prestun*, and *Preston*. Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, son of Henry the Third, founded a House of Grey Friars at this place: and before his time, according to Tanner, an *hospital* had been established here. Leland says that the former "was sette in the soile of a gentilman caullid *Prestun*, dwelling in the toun self of *Preston*.\*" The ville of *Preston*, with some hamlets appertaining to it, was held by *Tosti*, the fourth son of *Godwin*, Earl of *Kent*.

In the first year of the reign of *Richard the First*, *Theobald Walter*, brother of *Hubert*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, obtained a grant of the fee of the lordship of *Preston*, and of the whole *Wapentake*, or forest of *Amounderness*. In about five years after he was made sheriff of this county, which office he held until the first of king *John*, and contributed largely to king *Richard's* redemption. The surname of *Butler* was afterwards assumed by his son *Theobald*, who had married the sister of *Thomas a Becket*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*.

Preston

\* Itinerary, Vol. IV, fo. 38.



Preston obtained the privilege of a *Borough* in the twenty-sixth of Henry the Second. The inhabitants gave 100 marks to enjoy the same privileges as those of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. King John, in his second year, had sixty marks, and four chasers, or dogs, for ratifying their liberties; but they were fined ten marks and a palfrey in the next year, for their peace, on a plaint made against them by Theobald Walter, concerning the gaol and gallows. Henry the Third, and Edward the Third, both confirmed these grants\*.

Though this borough sent members to parliament four times in the reign of Edward the First, and in the first year of Edward the Second, it had afterwards no summons to that purpose, until the reign of Edward the Sixth: but it has frequently been the seat of violent contests, though, on all occasions of parliamentary investigation, the decisive right of voting has been always determined for the inhabitants at large. The Earl of Derby, who has an handsome house here, returns one member; but the opposite interest commonly carries the other. The returns are made by the mayor and two bailiffs; and the corporation, besides the mayor, has a recorder, aldermen, common-council men, and a town-clerk.

In the sixteenth of Edward the Second, in the octaves of the nativity of St. John Baptist, Robert Bruce made an irruption into England by way of Carlisle, passing through Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Lancashire, as far as Preston, part of which he burnt, as he had demolished other towns in the several counties he had traversed. In about three weeks and three days, says Holinshed, he returned into Scotland, without coming to any engagement with the English.

Preston has the advantage of being the seat of various law-courts; amongst these, the duchy of Lancaster has a court of chancery, in which all causes are heard and determined according to certain peculiar customs of their own. Under the chancellor of  
the

\* See Madox's History of the Exchequer, second edition, 1769, Vol. I. p. 498; and Brady on English Boroughs, 8vo. 1777, p. 98.

the duchy, who is the chief judge, is a vice-chancellor, with the attorney-general, chief-clerk, registrar, and examiner, attornies and clerks, prothonotary, and clerks of the crown, &c. From the county court also, which sits every Tuesday, writs for debts above 40s. are issued, and executions follow on failure of appearance. But writs holding to bail are issued from the prothonotary's office, and directed to the sheriff, who grants a warrant for apprehension. Other courts are also held here; and a court of quarter sessions of the peace, by adjournment from Lancaster, on Thursday in the week after Epiphany.

The Parish Church is a large building, and was impropriated to the college of Leicester, but is now in the patronage of the Hoghton family. The parish is large, and has three chapels of ease; Broughton, St. Lawrence, and the New Chapel. But the last had no certain endowment until the Rev. Samuel Peploe, then vicar of Preston, procured the queen's bounty for it in 1717; and on his promotion to the see of Chester, in 1725, his son succeeded him as vicar here, who was presented, in 1727, by the dean and chapter of Chester, to the rectory of Northenden, in that diocese, worth about 150l. per annum.

In the time of the civil contest between king Charles the First, and the parliament of England, the duke of Hamilton, who had brought an army from Scotland for his service, was routed on Ribbleson moor, to the eastward of the town, and at the pass of the bridge. This was in 1648; the army under Cromwell and Lambert being very inferior in numbers, but much superior in discipline. In the year 1715 also, the friends of the pretender were defeated here by the forces of George the First, under the command of Generals Willes and Carpenter. Having been joined by many disaffected people, especially papists, great numbers of them were made prisoners, brought to trial, and found guilty of high treason. Amongst those who suffered may be noticed the names of Richard Chorley, of Chorley, Esq. Mr. Shuttleworth of Preston, Mr. Roger Muncaster, an attorney of Garstang, Mr. John Ord of Lancaster, and other neighbouring gentlemen, with seven or eight others of Preston, five of Wigan, and five of Manchester,



chester, four of Garstang, four of Lancaster, and four of Liverpool. One of these was Thomas Syddal, a blacksmith, and captain of the mob, whose head was set up on the cross at Manchester; and another, whose name was Collingwood, had an estate of 2000*l.* per annum. It is remarkable that in the year 1745, when another rebellion broke out in favour of the Pretender, the son of the said Thomas Syddal, who was a barber, was made a prisoner, and executed, and his head placed on the top of the exchange at Manchester, September 18th, 1746\*.

We must not pass over the charter granted to the burgesses of Preston, in 1172, by Henry the Second, without noticing the *guild-merchant* within the borough, then established, which has been confirmed by many succeeding kings and queens. It is a sort of public carnival, or *jubilee*, and is held every twenty years, as appears by the records of the corporation. The last confirmation was by Charles the Second, in 1684; since which time it has been regularly held, in the first of Anne, ninth of George the First, sixteenth of George the Second, and second, twenty-second, and again in

\* It is well known at Long-Preston, near Settle, in Yorkshire, that in the year 1745, a buxom, handsome young woman of that place, anxious to see the Pretender and his army, went to Preston, in Lancashire, for that purpose, a distance of about thirty-eight miles; and after gratifying her curiosity, and staying some time in, or near the rebel camp, returned to her native village. This became so much the subject of general conversation, that it was the occasion of producing a ballad, which obtained as much notoriety in Ribblesdale, as the famous historical ballad of Chevy Chase. The gentleman who has furnished this anecdote says, that he has frequently heard her sing the very song, of which she herself was the subject, twenty-five years after the occurrence; and she had then, though advanced in life, the remains of a handsome face, and fine person, which had doubtless been impaired by time, and by a strong propensity to indulge in spirituous liquors. The strains of

“ Long-Preston Peggy to proud Preston went,  
To see the bold rebels it was her intent,” &c.

were seldom carolled from her lips till she had been treated with half a dozen, or more, glasses of spirits.



in the forty-second year of his present Majesty; the only monarch, except Queen Elizabeth, who has reigned during the time of three guilds\*. It begins about the latter end of August; and by the charter, which obliges the corporation to celebrate it at the end of every twenty years, on pain of forfeiting their elective franchises, and their rights as burgesses, twenty-eight days of grace are allowed to all who are disposed to renew their freedom. By public proclamation, it is declared, that on failure of doing so, they are ever after to be debarred of the same on any future occasion. The last guild commenced on the 30th of August, 1802, when an immense concourse of people of all ranks was assembled; and processions of the gentlemen at the head of the different classes of manufacturers, with symbolical representations of their respective branches of trade and commerce; and bands of music passed

\* By the following list, in which the mayors, and respective festivals, are enumerated, there appears to have been formerly some irregularity in the periods; but since the restoration of Charles the Second, they have been exact.

|                        |                                      |       |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Anbert, son of Robert, | Second of Edward the Third,          | 1323. |
| William Ergham, .      | Twentieth of Richard the Second,     | 1396. |
| Henry Johnson, .       | Fifth of Henry the Fifth,            | 1417. |
| Robert Haughton, .     | Thirty-seventh of Henry the Sixth,   | 1458. |
| William Marshall, .    | Sixteenth of Henry the Seventh,      | 1500. |
| Thomas Typing, .       | Thirty-fourth of Henry the Eighth,   | 1542. |
| Thomas Wall, .         | Fourth of Elizabeth,                 | 1562. |
| George Walton, .       | Twenty-fourth of Elizabeth,          | 1582. |
| Henry Cotterall, .     | Fourty-fourth of Elizabeth,          | 1602. |
| William Preston, .     | Twentieth of James the First,        | 1622. |
| Edmund Werden, .       | Eleventh of Charles the First,       | 1635. |
| James Hodgkinson, .    | Fourteenth of Charles the Second,    | 1662. |
| Roger Sudall, .        | Thirty-fourth of Charles the Second, | 1682. |
| Josias Gregson, .      | First of Anne,                       | 1702. |
| Edmund Asheton, .      | Ninth of George the First,           | 1722. |
| Henry Farrington, .    | Sixteenth of George the Second,      | 1742. |
| Robert Parker, .       | Second of George the Third,          | 1762. |
|                        | Twenty-second of George the Third,   | 1782. |
| Nicholas Grimshaw, .   | Forty-second of George the Third,    | 1802. |

passed through the principal streets of the town. The mayor and corporation, with the wardens of the different companies at the head of their respective incorporated bodies, each in their official dresses, and with their usual insignia, fell into the ranks in due order; and the whole was preceded by an excellent band of music belonging to the 17th regiment of light dragoons, in full dress, and their officers newly cloathed. Besides the wool-combers, spinners, weavers, cordwainers, carpenters, vintners, taylors, smiths, plumbers, painters, glaziers, watchmakers, mercers, and drapers companies, the whole was closed by the butchers, skimmers, tanners, and glovers, habited in characteristic dresses; each company being attended by a band of music, and a very elegant ensign. In this order they proceeded to church, and after service returned and paraded through the different streets in the same order. The mayor afterwards entertained the gentlemen at his house; and on the next day the mayoress repeated the treat to the ladies of the town, and its vicinity, who formed a procession on this day, in a similar manner, (preceded by the girls of the cotton manufactory,) superbly dressed, and profusely decorated with jewels. Nearly 400 of them, each wearing an elegant fashionable plume of feathers, formed such a brilliant display of beauty and elegance, as irresistibly to attract universal attention and admiration. The procession was conducted to and from the church, in like manner as on the preceding day; in the course of which, a miniature model of a complete steam-engine was introduced at work, and performing every operation of the cotton manufactory. The whole was extremely showy and brilliant. Balls, races, and plays, were not forgotten during this interesting festival.

The "gilda mercatoria," or merchants guild, is a privilege to merchants, enabling them to hold certain pleas of land, &c. within their own precinct, and is confirmed by acts of parliament, in the thirty-seventh of Edward the Third, and fifteenth of Richard the Second. It is of Saxon origin, by which certain communities stipulate with each other, to punish crimes, make good losses, and acts of restitution in proportion to offences. Fraternities and guilds, therefore, are of ancient use, long before formal licenses

were granted; at this day a guild implies a company united together, with private laws and orders, after licence obtained from the king for that purpose.

The mischiefs which were done to this town by the rebels, in 1715, were the cause of its being rebuilt in a more commodious and pleasant manner; for it is now a handsome well-built town, with broad regular streets, and many good houses. It has three weekly markets, on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; but the last is much the largest, and is under very particular regulations to prevent forestalling and regrating. Every necessary of life is here to be purchased, and in general at very reasonable prices. The town is supplied with coals by the Douglas navigation, which joins the river below Walton bridge; and the new Lancaster canal which is to pass near it, will add to the sources of supply of this useful and essential article of comfort to the inhabitants. By these canals communications are opened with the rivers Mersey, Dee, Ouse, Trent, Derwent, Severn, Humber, Thames, Avon, &c.; for the Ribble is only navigable for small vessels that coast it with goods from Liverpool and other parts, and transmit cotton and other manufactured articles, which are made here in prodigious quantities, in return.

As a military post, Preston, from its commanding situation, has been deemed of the utmost importance in all the civil commotions of the kingdom. Traces of a Roman military way may be discovered on the adjoining common, from the mouth of the Ribble to Ribchester. Near the town also are many fine walks; but the most favourite is that of Enim, as a MS. authority writes it, or Haynam; from which the Pretender is said to have viewed the town and the country below it, in 1745, with extraordinary emotions.

The *Town-hall* here is a very large and handsome building, Sir Edward Stanley, Bart. who was one of the knights of the shire, and afterwards Earl of Derby, made a present of the picture of George the Second to the corporation, which was placed in their town-hall on the birth-day of the king, October 30th, 1729, when he entered on the forty-seventh year of his age. The

*Assembly*



*Assembly-Rooms* were built at the sole expence of the Earl of Derby, for the use of the ladies and gentlemen of Preston, and its vicinity, are elegant and commodious. The *new prison*, or penitentiary house, near the entrance of the town from Chorley by Walton bridge, is constructed on the plan of Mr. Howard, and appropriated for the criminals of Lonsdale, Amounderness, Blackburn, and West-Derby hundreds, being erected at the sole expence of those districts. It bears much resemblance to the New-Bayley prison at Manchester; and its purpose is for salutary confinement and reformation only. Each prisoner is allowed, daily, a pound and a half of bread, and a piece of butter, with a halfpenny worth of potatoes; and they are permitted to exchange what they do not eat for tea and sugar; but all strong liquors are absolutely prohibited. A *new bridge* was also built over the Ribble in 1781, under the authority of an act of parliament, the former one having been washed away by a flood. At the late return, in 1801, the population of the town of Preston was 11,887, and the number of houses 2231.

At Penwortham, which is about a mile south from the town, was formerly a *priory* of Benedictine monks, subject to the abbey of Evesham, in Worcestershire. It was founded in the Conqueror's time, by Warine Russel; and at the dissolution of monasteries, the site and buildings were granted by Henry the Eighth to John Fleetwood. Near this place, it is to be presumed, the Seal, or Sea-calf, mentioned by Dr. Leigh\*, was taken in the river Ribble, near the seat of Thomas Fleetwood, Esq. called the Bank. Amongst the uncommon or scarce plants of this county, the spring Cinquefoil is found in some pastures near the town.

#### GARSTANG

Is a market and corporate town, seated on the western bank of the river Wyer, on the great turnpike road which communicates

VOL. IX.

H

between

\* Natural History of Lancashire, &c. Fol. p. 125.

between Preston and Lancaster, and at the distance of about eleven miles from each of those places. This town was incorporated by Charles the Second, and is governed by a bailiff, and seven capital burgesses. In the charter granted by that monarch, the corporation are invested with authority to try all misdemeanors committed within their liberty.

It has a market weekly, on Thursday, with three annual fairs; and the Lancaster Canal, which now passes by it, will be of essential advantage in a commercial view, and be a means of surmounting those obstacles which have heretofore operated against the establishment of any considerable manufactory in the town. The river Wyre, which runs parallel to the east side of the chief street, at a small distance, abounds with trout, chub, and gudgeons, and in the spring with smelts. It also supplies the inhabitants with abundance of fine soft water. This river, after several days incessant rain, was so swelled as to flow over the churchyard, which is above a mile south, at a place called Garstang-church town, and break into the church; by means of which the foundations were so weakened and undermined, that it was obliged to be taken down and rebuilt in the year 1746, at an expence of 1910*l*. The church was formerly impropriated to the abbey of Cocker-sand; and it has chapels at Market-Garstang and Pilling.

A large printing cotton and calico manufactory has been long established at Catteral, about two miles to the south; and at Seorton, three miles, Dolphinholm, five miles, and Catstraw, seven miles, all to the north-east, are various spinning manufactories; and another about three miles to the south-east.

About a mile to the north-east of the town, are the ruins of GREENHAUGH CASTLE. At present there is only one tower remaining, and that in a very shattered state; but it seems to have consisted originally of seven or eight towers of great height and strength. Some writers have dated its foundation in the times of the Saxon heptarchy; but others attribute it to Thomas Stanley, the first Earl of Derby, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, as a place of protection from the nobility of the country, whose estates he had obtained on their being proscribed as guilty  
of



of treason. The surrounding tract of country has been noted for producing a fine breed of cattle, and a great abundance of potatoes. There were 731 persons here in 1801.

About one mile south of the town is KIRKLAND-HALL, the seat of *Alexander Butler*, Esq. MYERSCOUGH-HOUSE, an ancient mansion, is the seat of *Charles Gibson*, Esq. CLAUGHTON-HALL, about three miles south-east, is a seat of *William Fitzherbert Brockholes*, Esq. a gentleman who has greatly improved a large morass on his estate, by means of draining, &c\*. The Brockholes family appear to have resided here from the time of Henry the Seventh.

About three miles to the west of Garstang, is the east side of PILLING-MOSS, which exhibited a similar phenomenon to that of Solway-moss, in 1771. The account of it was given in the *Philosophical Transactions* to the following effect†. "On Saturday the 26th of January, 1744-5, a part of Pilling-moss, lying between Hescomb houses‡, and Wild Bear, was observed to rise to a surprising height. After a short time it shrunk as much below the level, and moved slowly towards the south side; and in half an hour it covered twenty acres of land. The improved land adjoining to that part of the moss, which moves in a concave circle, containing near 100 acres, is nearly filled up with moss and water, and in some parts is thought to be five yards deep. One family is driven out of their house, which is quite surrounded, and the fabric is tumbling down. The part of the moss, which is sunk like the bed of a river, runs north and south, and is above a mile in length, and half a mile in breadth. When the moss began to move, a man was passing over it from the west, who perceived, to his great astonishment, that the ground moved southward. By a speedy return, he had the good fortune to escape being swallowed up."

H 2

POULTON

\* Holt's Agricultural Survey.

† See No. 475, p. 282.

‡ These are about half a mile from the south side of the moss.



## POULTON

Is a small town of only 197 houses, and 769 inhabitants. The lordship, with that of Biscopeham, between it and the sea, were given to the abbey of Shrewsbury by Roger de Poitiers. The vicarage also of this place, with the curacy of Biscopeham, were both impropriated to the nunnery of Sion, in Middlesex; but the patronage of both is, or lately was, in Messrs. Fleetwood and Ramsden.

At the distance of five miles west of Poulton is BLACKPOOL, which, within the last thirty years, has attained some distinction as a *watering-place*. For this purpose its situation, and other characteristics, are peculiarly favorable, whether we consider its fine breezes from the western ocean, its flat and smooth beach, to the breadth of half a mile when the tide is out, the straight coast for nearly twenty miles, or the purity of the water with which its visitors are supplied. The name is derived from a pool of water, of a black, dark, or liver colour, which formerly was known to be at its south end, but now filled up and converted into meadow ground. Some faint views of the Isle of Man, to the north west, may be seen from the land behind it, in a clear evening; to the north, the fells of Westmoreland at forty miles distance, the crags of Lancashire, and the hills of Cumberland, are visible; to the south, even at fifty miles distance, are seen the mountains of North Wales; but the rising ground to the east, limits the prospect on that side. Such is the situation of Blackpool. The sea has encroached upon the land here very considerably within the memory of persons now living; and from the flatness of the beach, no vessel can approach the shore, and even the smallest boat cannot be entered without wading. The tradition of the country is, that a public house stood upon firm land, near a stone called Penny-stone, which is now at least half a mile from the shore. The sea, probably from its little depth, affords but few fish; though fresh water fish, and those of a mixed nature, are abundant from the

rivers Lune, Wyre, and Ribble. Near the south end of the hamlet, is a building called Vauxhall, now in a state of ruinous decay. It was long the retreat for popish recusants, and in 1715, was fitted up to receive the Pretender, in a state of concealment, till matters were ripe for a general insurrection; and being surrounded by a lofty wall, it was only accessible from the north; the south and east sides being defended by the pool and a swamp, and on the sea-side could not be approached by any vessel. It also contained many secret recesses and hiding places, and was therefore well adapted to guard against surprise. The regulations for bathing at Blackpool are certainly entitled to approbation. At the proper time of the tide, a bell rings for the ladies to assemble, when no gentleman must be seen on the parade, under the forfeiture of a bottle of wine; and on their retiring, the bell again rings to summons the gentlemen to a similar ceremony. On the sea-beach is the parade, a pleasant grass walk of about six yards wide, by 200 yards in length. A News-house and Coffee-room have been established here for the convenience of visitors, who, in some seasons, have amounted to 400, or more.

ROSTALL-HALL, about five miles north of this hamlet, is the seat of *Fleetwood Bold Hesketh, Esq.* who is Lord of the manor of Blackpool\*.

### KIRKHAM

Is a small town, with a population of 1561 persons, and consists of 362 houses. The Church here, together with those of Walton and Biscòpelham, were given by Roger of Poitou, or Poitiers, to the abbey of St. Peter and Paul in Shrewsbury, which his father had founded; but in the seventh of Richard the First, a fine was levied between Theobald Walters, demandant in a writ of right of advowson of this church, against the Abbot of Shrewsbury, when a rent

H 3

of

\* For many local particulars relating to this place, see "A Description of Blackpool," by W. Hutton, F. A. S. S. second Ed. 1804.



of twelve marks was reserved to the Abbot, with a clause for the incumbents fealty for true payment. This claim, however, seems to have been of little avail; for Edward the First appropriated it to the abbey of Vale Royal, in Cheshire\*. The vicarage is now in the patronage of Christ-church college, Oxford; and it comprehends the chapels of Goosenarth, White Chapel, Hamledon, and Lund. We read of Walter de Kirkham, who was keeper of the king's wardrobe, nineteenth of Henry the Third. In this town is a well endowed free-school, with three masters. Its market is on Tuesday; and it has two fairs, in June and October. It has some trade in coarse linens, and also in sail cloth. One mile west of the town is RIBBY-HALL, a large well-built brick mansion, belonging to *Joseph Hornby, Esq.*

BLACKBURN HUNDRED is bounded by Yorkshire on the north and east, with Salford Hundred to the south, and the Hundreds of Leyland and Amounderness to the west. This district was formerly called *Blackburnshire*, and though at an early period it was a wild, dreary, and uncultivated part of the county, yet it is now filled with inhabitants, and abounds with manufactories. The *Leeds* and *Liverpool Canal*, with that called the *Haslingden*, traverses this hundred, and opens a navigation with the towns of Colne, Burnley, Haslingden, and Blackburn. Besides these towns, that of Clithero is within this hundred, which is noted for an important *Roman station* at Ribchester: also for a *Castle* at Clithero, and an *Abbey* at Whalley. In this district were several ancient manor houses, some of which are deserted, and in ruins: and instead of the old wood-built mansion, many elegant and comfortable structures have been raised within the last century. Several turnpike-roads intersect this hundred, and render the intercourse, either for pleasure or business, between the towns, easy and pleasant,

The

\* See King's Vale Royal, p. 115. Dugdale's Mon. Angl. Vol. II. f. 925.



The principal town of this hundred, and that which gives name to it, is

### BLACKBURN.

The following account of the parish, town, and scenery of Blackburn, and its vicinity, was kindly communicated to me by the Rev. Thomas Starkie; and as the history and topography of this district are but little known, I presume that the whole will be perused with pleasure and interest by the readers of this work.

The parish of Blackburn is bounded on the west by the Ribble, which separates it from the parishes of Mitton, Ribchester, and Preston; by the Calder on the north; and by the Hyndburne, and an imaginary line, on the east, it is separated from the parish of Whalley. To the south it abuts on the parishes of Bury, Bolton, Leyland, and Brindle. The form of this parish is irregular; its greatest length from north-east to south-west is about fourteen miles, and its greatest breadth exceeds ten miles. It contains the following townships—Blackburn, Walton, Cuerdale, Samlesbury, Balderston, Osbaldeston, Salesbury, Dinkley, Wilpshire, Billington, Great-Harwood, Little-Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-dale, Ramsgrave, Over-Darwen, Lower-Darwen, Tockholes, Mellor, Witton, Pleasington, and Livesey. Its area may be estimated at 86 square miles, or 55,040 statute acres. In the year 1802, its population was 33,599 persons, which allows 390 inhabitants to every square mile, or one acre and three fifths, to every inhabitant. Since the average throughout the kingdom has been computed to be four acres of arable and meadow land for every inhabitant, and as the lands in this parish are not rendered very productive, either by nature or art, the inhabitants are greatly dependant on other districts for a necessary supply of provisions.

The township of Blackburn, in 1802, contained 11,980 persons, which is more than double the number it contained in 1782, when its population was ascertained: but this great increase must, in part, be ascribed to the influx of people, occasioned by the prosperous trade of the place.

A rivulet, whose ancient name, *Blakebourne*, has been long absorbed in that of the town, divides it into two unequal parts, of which the western is by much the larger. There is little regularity in the form of the streets, which may in a great measure be accounted for by the intermixture of glebe and other lands. This town contains two Churches on the establishment, one Chapel for Presbyterians, one for Anabaptists, one for Papists, two for Methodists, and one in which the services of the Church of England are performed by a person licensed at the quarter sessions; but who never obtained episcopal ordination. It has a *Grammar-School*, founded by Queen Elizabeth, and governed by fifty persons, who are required by the charter to be inhabitants of the vill, or parish of Blackburn. The present revenues of this school are 160l. per annum; of which 100l. is appropriated to the master, and 60l. to the usher. There is also a *Charity-School*, founded by a Mr. Leyland, for the instruction of about sixty girls, in reading, sewing, and knitting: they are partly clothed, and the whole is supported by benefactions and annual collections made in the two churches on the establishment. Above twenty years ago a *Sunday School*, for 300 children, was established, and continues to be superintended by the Reverend Thomas Starkie, the present vicar. It is supported by annual subscriptions. At a little distance from the town, in an airy situation, is a commodious dwelling for the reception of the poor belonging to the town: in one of its apartments is a dispensary, appropriated to their use and benefit.

Three fairs are annually held in this town, viz. at Easter, May-day, and Michaelmas: it has also a market every Wednesday and Saturday; and a police for regulating the market, and for paving, lighting, watching, and cleansing the streets. The expence of the police is supported by a rate on the occupiers of buildings. The distance of Blackburn from Manchester is 25, and from London 208 miles.

The benefice of Blackburn is a vicarage remaining in charge, and valued in the king's books at 8l. 1s. 8d. per annum. It is in the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the appropriate rector,



rector. Within the parish are eight Chapels of Ease; they are all endowed, and in the nomination of the vicar, viz. Walton-le-Dale, formerly called Lawe, or Low, Samlesbury, Balderston, Lango, Great-Harwood, Over-Darwen, Tockholes, and St. John's, i Blackburn. To these may be added another Chapel of Ease, built this year in Salesbury, but not yet consecrated.

It appears from a census, taken previous to the Bishop of Chester's primary visitation, in the year 1804, that this parish, exclusive of the chapelries, contained 1490 Presbyterians, 396 Independents, 71 Anabaptists, 13 Quakers, 765 Methodists, and 734 Papists. In the summer of 1803, the popish bishop of the northern district confirmed popish catechumens in this town, perhaps for the first time since the Reformation.

The former trade of this town was the manufacture of *Blackburn-Checks*, a fabrick consisting of a linen warp and a cotton woof, one or both of which being dyed in the thread, gave to the piece, when woven, a striped or checked appearance. This article was afterwards superseded by the *Blackburn-Greys*, so called from their colour, neither the warp nor the woof having been dyed before they were put into the loom. These goods were generally sent to London to be printed. About thirty years ago, another change took place in the manufacture of this town, and its neighbourhood, when the greys were succeeded by *Calicoes*, which differ from the former in this respect only, that the warp, as well as the woof, consists of cotton, and owe their name to their resemblance of the cotton cloth of India, brought hither chiefly from the province of Calicut. The manufacture of calicoes, at first confined to this town and neighbourhood, is now become one of the most important branches of industry, not only of this, but of several of the northern counties. Blackburn is, however, still considered as the great mart for calicoes, and is become, through their means, for its size and population, one of the richest towns in Europe. In consequence of the late improvements which have been made in spinning cotton, this manufacture, both here and in various other parts of the county of Lancaster, has attained a great degree of perfection. On being printed, the calicoes be-  
come



come subject to a tax of three-pence halfpenny for every square yard; but this is withdrawn on exportation of the goods.

Perhaps there is no business which requires so much capital, ingenuity, and attention, as the printing of calicoes. As it is now carried on by some of the first printers in this county, it includes a variety of subordinate trades and arts. In the first place, the calicoe-printer buys the raw material; he afterwards spins it, weaves it, and bleaches it. These operations are often conducted separately, and give employment and bread to the merchant, the cotton-spinner, the manufacturer, and the bleacher: of which, the three former often employ very large capitals. After the calicoe has been bleached, and before it can be printed, the calicoe-printer must bring to his aid the chemist, the pattern-drawer, the block-cutter, and the engraver. Much time and experience are necessary to bring any one of these different arts to perfection. To erect buildings adapted to the various operations, to furnish them with all necessary implements and materials, and to regulate and keep in due motion the wheels of this vast and complicated machine, requires a purse of no common magnitude; and an attention which must be constant and indefatigable.

To such a state of perfection are the arts of spinning cotton, and printing calicoes, now brought in this county, that a pound of cotton can be spun into 300 hanks, each 640 yards in length, and sold for eighteen guineas; and a furniture pattern be printed, which in the execution requires 448 blocks, to produce the required figure and colors.

Little can be said in behalf of the state of agriculture in this parish. Estates are generally divided into small farms, for the purpose of supplying the farmer, who is generally a weaver or mechanic, with milk and butter for his family. It is by the loom chiefly, that rents for land are paid, in the neighbourhood of this town. There are few farms in the whole parish that exceed a hundred statute acres, and not many which approach nearly to that magnitude. The grain most commonly grown is oats. Neither the climate, nor the soil, are favorable to the cultivation of wheat, of which very little is grown, except in the more shelter-

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ed parts of the parish, near the banks of the Ribble. Artificial grasses, turnips, and cabbages, are but little cultivated here; but much attention is now paid to the planting of the potatoe, which is found to be an excellent substitute for bread, and affords a pleasant and nutritious support for cattle. There is not a single sheep-farm in the parish, nor perhaps a single sheep which has been both bred and fed, in the whole district. The market is supplied with beef and mutton from the rich pastures of Craven.

A taste and spirit for building and agriculture have lately begun to shew themselves in the neighbourhood of this town. At WOOD-FOLD, in the township of Mellor, four miles west from Blackburn, a very magnificent house has been lately erected, of a bluish grey stone, having in the centre a flight of steps, with a portico supported by four massy columns of the Corinthian order. *Henry Sudell*, Esq. the proprietor, and lord of the manor, has spared no expence in improving the grounds about this noble mansion, and in embellishing them with considerable expanses, both of wood and water. The house stands near the northern boundary of the park, which is surrounded by a wall of hewn stone, four miles in circumference, nearly nine feet high, and mounted with a round coping at the top. The park contains some romantic glens, and fine plantations of old and young trees.

There are two views from this house which merit particular notice. That to the south side, or from the principal front, is not of great extent. It is bounded by a hilly outline, in which a rock of considerable height and breadth forms a striking feature. This rock rests upon a bed of *aluminous earth*, and has been exposed to view, by the labour of man, in search of that substance. Fuller says, that a mine was worked here in his time, but had long been neglected, on account of the expence of removing the superincumbent strata. The last adventurer was *Sir George Colbroke*, whose speculations in this article terminated in his ruin. Since his time no attempt has been made to remove this immense rock, in order to procure the ore, and so enlarge this excavation, which must have been the work of many ages. The ground



ground about the rock is wild and irregular, and forms a good contrast to the cultivated park which makes the foreground of the landscape. A little to the west of the rock, and a mile or two beyond it, stands on more elevated ground, and on the very summit of the precipice, the old mansion of HOGHTON-TOWER, belonging to the *Hoghton* family. Within the last few years the roof of the gallery, and some of its walls, have fallen prostrate; though some parts of this ancient and extensive building are inhabited by a few families of the lower class. The building is falling fast to decay, and presents to view an object at once picturesque, grand, melancholy, and venerable.

The west side of the house commands a soft and rich view of the vales of the Ribble and Darwen rivers, which mingle their streams below the village of Walton. The banks of both these streams are well clothed with woods, and adorned with several handsome buildings, some of which the eye catches in pursuing the course of the Ribble.

At WITTON, something less than two miles from Blackburn, is the newly-erected mansion of *Henry Feilden*, Esq. It stands on rising ground, at a little distance from the Darwen, and is embosomed in wood. It is built of a cream-coloured free-stone, richly veined, and has in the centre of the eastern front a portico supported by Doric pillars. This chaste and elegant villa commands two pleasing views of the Darwen, whose banks are diversified with swelling knolls, well planted with thriving woods.

Less than a mile below Witton, and on the same side of the vale, is another new structure of stone, the seat of *J. F. Butler*, Esq. Both of these houses are screened from the north by the sombre Hill of *Billinge*, the termination of that chain of hills which extend from Yorkshire into this part of Lancashire. The elevation of this hill above the level of the sea is about 300 yards; and from its top may be distinctly seen, in clear weather, the mountains of Ingleborough and Pennigent, in Yorkshire, Blackcombe in Cumberland, the hills near Frodsham in Cheshire, and the whole coast of North Wales,

Still



Still lower in the vale, at Molden-Water, three miles from Blackburn, the banks of the Darwen become more bold and craggy, and are well covered with wood. The river, in its course from this place to its junction with the Ribble, a space of about seven miles, presents to view some very interesting and romantic scenery, most of which, for want of a road, is lost to the traveller. Of the buildings which adorn the banks of this part of the river, stands first, proudly pre-eminent above all the rest, Hoghton-Tower, already mentioned; then DARWEN-BANK, the seat of *Edward Pedder, Esq.*; CUERDALE-LODGE, the seat of *William Ashton, Esq.*; Walton Church; Cooper Hill; and WALTON-HALL, the mansion of Sir Henry *Philip Hoghton, Bart.* These four last edifices grace the banks of the Ribble, as well as those of the Darwen. Opposite to the last mansion, and on the north side of it, the Darwen falls into the Ribble, between the two handsome stone bridges thrown over the latter, at Walton and Penwortham. For several miles, above and below this junction, the vale of the Ribble has every charm and variety which fertile ground, a fine river, elegant villas, and hanging woods, can well bestow.

There are two stations in the northern extremity of this parish which deserve to be noticed, as the views to be seen from them are extremely beautiful. One of these is in a farm called *Egg-Syke*, on the southern bank of the Calder, about a mile and half to the east of Whalley. At the foot of the eminence, whose steep side is covered with wood, the river makes a considerable winding. In the valley, to the east, the Bridge forms a very picturesque object; beyond which are seen the sloping woods of Read-Hall. Between the bridge and the station, the river flows down with a gently winding course, the green pastures of Egg-Syke in many places sloping to the edge of the stream; through the openings in the banks, that are fringed with wood. Towards Whalley the course of the river is much more winding, and its banks are diversified with many projecting points, richly covered with wood, of the greatest variety of foliage. The verdant holme land of  
Whalley

Whalley demesne terminates the valley in this direction, and is crowned by the noble woods of the Honorable *Richard Penn Curzon* and *Robert Whalley*, Esq. on one side, and of Sir *Thomas D. Hesketh*, Bart. on the other. Indeed, viewed from hence, they seem to form one continued forest, and exclude all objects beyond them, except the summit of Grindleton Fell, which is caught through an opening made by the Calder valley. Immediately in front is MARTON, a seat of *James Taylor*, Esq. the grounds of which swell finely, and are capable of great embellishment. Beyond Marton, the park and mansion of CLERK-HILL appear to great advantage; and Pendle-hill, which forms a back ground, more grand than beautiful, closes the prospect.

The other station is on the margin of the Ribble, near BROCK-HALL, the property of *James Taylor*, Esq. below its junctions with the Oder and Calder. To the east, near the banks of the Ribble, which here holds a winding course, stands HACKING-HALL, an old mansion, now the property of a branch of the *Petre* family. Beyond this, in the fertile vale of the Calder, and situated on its banks, is Whalley, so interesting to the antiquary for its ancient Church and Abbey. Above Whalley rise the fine woods and grounds, which were formerly a part of the Abbey domain, and terminate the prospect in this direction. Turning to the west, is seen, over the bend of the Ribble, the large pile of STONEY-HURST, the ancient residence of the *Sherburnes*, with its turrets and cupolas, and surrounding woods: this view is terminated by the lofty grounds of Long-ridge. To the north a very rich and extensive view is obtained of the vale of Ribble, intersected by the finely wooded vales of Calder on the east, and Oder on the north-west. The objects which embellish this landscape are, the church and woods of Mitton, the church of Waddington, the beautifully swelling and woody grounds of Wadda, with the town, the castle, and the church of Clithero. That vast mountain, Pendle Hill, forms the right screen to this view: and Waddington and Grindleton hills form the left: in front it is terminated by the more distant hills in Yorkshire. As no public road passes near



According to him, the hundred of Blackburn was granted by the Conqueror to *Roger de Busti*, and *Albert de Greslet*; but the Dr. doubts the authority of Dugdale, in placing "*Ilbert de Laci*, a Norman adventurer," as the *first* Lord of Clithero; and is inclined to identify *Robert de Laci* as the earliest possessor, "who was certainly Lord of Blackburnshire." The great fee of Pontefract, in which was comprehended this lesser one of Clithero, after being dispossessed of it by Henry the First, for espousing the cause of Robert Curtois, was restored to him, after a temporary alienation; and the grants of the church of Whalley, by Hugh, or Guy de la Val, during his possession, to the monks of Pontefract, was annulled for want of Robert de Laci's confirmation, though he ratified several other grants made during his attainder. The *castle* of Clithero, said to be built by this Robert, was fixed by him to be the seat of his barony, on an insulated conical rock of lime-stone, as the most eligible situation for his temporary residence, most convenient for transacting the business of the fee, which consisted of twenty-eight manors within the hundred, and as a fortress most desirable for defending his lands. His second son, Henry de Laci, his elder brother, Ilbert, dying without issue, founded a *Cistercian Abbey*, at Barnoldswick, which was afterwards translated to the more genial climate of Kirkstall, on the river Aire, about three miles west of Leeds, in Yorkshire, wherein Robert, the second son of this Henry de Laci, after his death in 1193, without issue, was interred. He devised his estates, by the mother's side only, to his sister Awbrey, whose husband, Richard Fitz-Eustace, Lord of Halton, and constable of Chester, died in 1178, as well as his son John in 1190; whose son, Roger de Laci, the terror and scourge of the Welch, succeeded to the fees of Pontefract and "*Clyderhow*," a fine having been levied, in 1195, between him and his grandmother Awbrey for that purpose, after his return from the siege of Acre, in the Holy Land, whither he had accompanied Richard the First, in the third crusade. To the *Abbey of Stanlaw*, which had been founded by John de Eustace, improperly called John de Laci, this Roger, his son, gave the advowson of the church of Rochdale, with four bovates of land



widow, Alice de Laci, had for her dowry various lordships in Yorkshire, and the manor of Widues in this county, and, after marrying two other husbands, died in 1348; the first of these was Eubulo L'Estrange, with whom she is stated previously to have lived in great familiarity, and afterwards married without the king's licence, of which circumstance he took advantage, and seized on her inheritance, both in this county and in Yorkshire. These remained in the hands of the crown until the beginning of Edward the Third's reign, when, with the exception of Ightenhill park only, they were granted for life to Queen Isabella. But on the reversal of Thomas of Lancaster's attainder, which was before her death, Henry Duke of Lancaster, by virtue of the entail on Edmund, the king's brother, and his heirs, succeeded to this honor and hundred. This Henry founded an *hermitage* for two recluses, in Whalley churchyard: he also granted the bailiwick of Blackburnshire to the abbey and convent there; and the manor of Downham, to John de Dyneley. He died March 24th, 1360, leaving only two daughters, co-heiresses, of whom, Blanch was married to John of Gaunt, fourth son of Edward the Third, Earl of Richmond, who was afterwards, in her right, created Duke of Lancaster. By this marriage he had the fees of Pontefract and Lancaster, and the hundred of Blackburn, or honor of Clithero, with the appurtenances, and died the 3d of February, 1398, leaving Henry of Bolingbroke, his son and heir, duke of Lancaster, who was then in banishment.

Henry, on his return, deposed his unfortunate master, Richard the Second, and the honor of Clithero thereby merged in the crown; but, aware of his usurpation, he made a charter of separation of the duchy of Lancaster, lest it should, on any future contest for the crown, follow its fortunes; yet still continued to pass all grants of lands, &c. under the great seal of England only, until the third of Henry the Fifth, when the duchy seal alone was directed to be used, a practice which was followed until Henry the Sixth was deposed. Leland\* has thus related the manner in which that un-

fortunate

\* See Collectanea, Vol. II. p. 500.

fortunate king was betrayed and abused, on seeking a temporary refuge here from his enemies. "In A. D. 1464, King Henry was taken in Clitherwoode by side Bunnerley hiping stones in Lancastershyre, by Tho. Talbot, sunne and heir to Sir Edmund Talbot of Bashall, and John Talbot, his cousin, of Colebry, which deceived him, being at his dyner in Wadyngton Haul, and brought him to London, with his legges bounde to the sterropes." For this good service there are no fewer than four patents, from Edward and Richard the Third, still extant. Edward the Fourth, on the contrary, passed an act, that the duchy should be incorporated with, and united to, the crown of England for ever; only providing that it should remain a corporate inheritance, and be governed by such officers as it had been during the three preceding reigns. But Henry the Seventh, the only legal heir to this honor, under the deed of settlement on the heirs male of John, Duke of Lancaster, and Blanch his wife, soon repealed Edward the Fourth's act, and entailed on himself, and his heirs, the duchy of Lancaster, with its appurtenances, together with the crown of England. Thus it continued till the restoration of Charles the Second, who bestowed it, for his eminent services, on General Monk, and his heirs; and it is now the inheritance of Henry, Duke of Buccleugh; but whether it was devised in fee by the second duke of Albemarle to his duchess, and was included amongst the estates given to her step-son, John, Duke of Montague, and so passed to the ancestors of the present possessor, I am not at present able to ascertain.

The Borough of Clithero, which has been represented in parliament from the first year of Queen Elizabeth, is a small town, on an insulated eminence, having its castle at one end, on an elevated lime-stone rock, the remains of which consist only of a square tower, distantly surrounded by a strong wall. In the latter part of the civil wars of the seventeenth century, it was a post of the royalists, but in 1649, was ordered to be dismantled; and the town, the inaccessible parts excepted, had been entirely moated round. Mention is made of a chapel here in the grant of Hugh de la Val; this was within the castle, and was erected for the use of



the baron, his family, tenants, and foresters: for the forests of Trowden, Rossendale, Bolland, and Pendle, were all considered as within its limits. This chapel had been always deemed a parish church, as appears from the deeds of many of the neighbouring gentry, though now totally ruined, having followed the fate of all the chantries in the time of Edward the Sixth. The several chapels of Pendle, Whitewell, Rossendale, and Goodshaw, are under Clithero, and in the church, which is a chapelry belonging to Whalley, are the alabaster figures of a knight and his lady, probably some of the family of Hesketh. This parochial chapel is of high antiquity, being expressly mentioned in De la Val's charter; and the fine Saxon arch between the nave and the choir, is a complete specimen of the style which prevailed until the time of Henry the First. All the ancient inhabitants of the forests, in the most inclement seasons, and by roads almost impassable in winter, were obliged to bring their dead here for interment, though in some parts nearly twenty miles distant, before the foundation of Newchurch, in Rossendale. But the castle, with the demesnes and forests, is, strictly speaking, extra-parochial; and to this day it is distinguished by the name of *castle-parish*.

This town has evidently assumed its name from the situation which it possesses. It is of an origin purely British, *Cled-dur* denoting a hill or rock by the water, and the additional syllable *hou* is purely Saxon, which also denotes a hill, and is merely an explanatory addition, adapted to the language and ideas of the Saxons. A fair, which had been held in the church-yard of Whalley, was by letters patent of the eleventh year of Henry the Fourth, transferred to Clithero, and appointed to be held there, on the eve, day, and morrow of the annunciation; and a confirmation of privileges by charter of the first of Henry the Fifth, to the free burgesses of Clyderhow, with an exception of the wood of Salthill, to be inclosed by the said burgesses at their own expence, and saving the king's rights of trying criminal causes only by the laws of the land. Clithero must have been a place of considerable importance, as we read of "Lambert, *physician* of Clyderhow," probably in the time of Henry the First, or at least not much subsequent to the conquest,



and physicians cannot be supposed to meet with practice in small places. We find also that it contained sixty-six free burgesses as early as the year 1240, which was a considerable number in those days of slender population: though the township alone now contains, by the returns of 1801, 1368 persons, and 309 houses.

The town seal, as appears appendant to a charter of the year 1335, consisted of a single lion rampant, the arms of Laci, circumscribed S. B. CWS. DE CLIDERHOW; but their modern seal is subsequent to the restoration. Clithero is now governed by two bailiffs, who jointly exercise the power of one magistrate or justice of the peace, and are also the returning officers for the borough. Freeholders only who have estates for life or in fee, or resident owners, are entitled to vote. It has an excellent grammar school contiguous to the church yard. This strictly preserves its character as a classical seminary, and is of the endowment of Philip and Mary, under the regulation of certain statutes by order of Bishop Bridgeman. On the opposite side of the Ribble, at Edisforth, within the borough, was formerly an hospital for lepers, which was founded before dates were particularly attended to in charters. In one of these John, son of Ralph de Cliderhou, grants three acres of land in Sidhill; and various other grants are met with, till in the twenty-fourth of Edward the Third it had neither warden nor brethren, and it was ultimately settled on the abbot and convent of Whalley. The site of the hospital was on the Yorkshire side of the Ribble.

Dr. Whitaker takes notice of a tract of country between the Ribble and Pendle Hill, bearing a "distinct and peculiar character." After some general observations on the nature of the soil from Lancaster to this place, as abounding with "coals, iron, and other kindred minerals," and as possessing "a set of native plants adapted to itself;" he observes that, "here on a sudden the crust of the earth appears to have undergone a violent disruption, in consequence of which the edges of the beds" of minerals "are thrown up into the air, and downward towards the centre of the earth. At an angle of no less than forty-five degrees, immediately beyond this appearance, rises the huge mass of Pendle, which

seems to have been thrown up by the same convulsion; and immediately to the north again, appears a surface of lime-stone, with its concomitant system of plants and minerals, which, had the strata to the south maintained their natural position, must have lain at a vast depth beneath. The effect of this convulsion is felt over a tract of forty miles to the north, scarcely a seam of coal being found before we arrive at Burton in Lonsdale. This fact serves to shew how much more the character of a country is determined by soil, than by climate; since, on the north of Pendle, and even on a declivity to the north we see wheat, peas, beans, and other usual productions of a more southern husbandry, ripening at least in favourable seasons; while on the south, upon a declivity also, the hardy black oat itself is often indebted to the frosts of November for all that resembles maturity about it." This hill of Pendle, noted in the boasted rhyming phraseology of the country\*, makes a conspicuous figure on the south side of the plain; and we have the authority of Mr. Pennant†, for asserting that "the sides are verdant, and the top moorish and very extensive. On this stood *Malkin-Tower*, celebrated, in 1633, for being the rendezvous of witches. Seventeen poor wretches were condemned

\* Nothing is more commonly repeated in the mouths of the children of the peasantry of this county, and the adjoining one of Yorkshire, especially in the district of Craven, than the following distich:—

"Pendlehill, and Pennygent, and little Ingleborough,  
Are three such hills as you'll not find by seeking England thorough."

Or, as it is otherwise expressed,

"Ingleborough, Pendlehill, and Pennygent,  
Are the highest hills between Scotland and Trent."

Yet those who have calculated the altitude of these hills, and the neighbouring one of Wharfedale, all of which are in Yorkshire, except Pendlehill, have stated that of Wharfedale to be considerably higher than any of the others.

† Tour from Downing to Alston-Moor, 4to. 1801, p. 79.



ned on perjured evidence: the affair was scrutinized into, and the poor convicts set at liberty. A witness swore he saw them go into a barn and pull at six ropes, down which fell flesh smoaking, butter in lumps, and milk as it were flying from the said ropes, all falling into six basons placed beneath; and yet, mortifying reflection! the great Sir *Thomas Brown*, author of the book against vulgar errors; and *Glanvil*, one of the first promoters of the Royal Society, which was instituted expressly for the detection of error, and establishment of truth, were sad instances of credulity in the most absurd of all circumstances. On this hill are two large *carus*, about a mile distant from each other: these were more probably the ruins of some ancient *Speculæ*, or beacon towers erected by *Agricola* after the conquest of the country. There is another, of more modern date, which answers to one in *Ingleborough-hill*, twenty miles to the north. From this may be seen a most amazing extent of country: York-miuster is very visible, and the land towards the German ocean as far as the powers of the eye can extend. Towards the west the sea is very distinguishable, and even the *Isle of Man*, by the assistance of glasses: to the north the vast mountains of Ingleborough, Wharn-side, and other of the British Apennines. The other views are the vales of Ribble, Hodder, and Calder, (the first extends thirty miles,) which afford a more delicious prospect, varied with numberless objects of rivers, houses, woods, and rich pastures covered with cattle; and in the midst of this fine vale rises the town of *Clithero*, with the castle at one end, and the church at the other, elevated on a rocky scar: the abbey of *Whalley*, about four miles to the south, and that of *Salley*, as much to the north, with the addition of many gentlemen's seats scattered over the vale, give the whole a variety and richness rarely to be found in any rural prospects. It is also enlivened with some degree of commerce, in the multitude of the cattle, the carriage of the lime, and the busy noise of the spinners engaged in the service of the woollen manufactures of the cloathing towns."



**COTTON-PRINTING, &c.**—About two miles from Clithero, and nearly the same distance from Whalley, on the road from Padiham to the former town, are situated the extensive **FACTORY** and **PRINT-GROUNDS** of Messrs. *Miller, Burys, and Co.* in a beautiful valley, watered by a small branch of the Ribble. The situation of this part of the country is peculiarly romantic; and those works, which consist of numerous cottages and houses, intermixed with the various work-shops, form a striking “coup-d’œil from Black hill, behind which Pendle hill rises in awful grandeur, extending itself over an immense tract of country. This mountain towers in one part to a very high peak, on the top of which the *Chamemorus*, or wild mulberry, (a plant peculiar to high mountains and cold countries), is found in great plenty. In the works of Messrs. Miller and Co. the whole process of spinning, weaving, and *printing*, is carried on to a great extent; but it is almost impossible to give a clear and full description of the latter process, as every color is raised by a different method. The mode of printing a single piece of two colours, with plumb or bloom ground, and a yellow object, may, however, convey some idea of the different processes attending this part of the business. When the piece is sufficiently bleached for printing, it is calendered, or pressed between two rollers, and is then removed to the print-shop, where it is printed by means of blocks\*, with a solution of lime-juice, mixed with pipe-clay. In this process the piece is stretched on a table before the printer, behind whom is placed a sieve which contains the color to be printed. This gives employment to a boy or girl, who is continually effacing with a brush the impression made by the block on the sieve, and keeping the surface constantly smoothed. After it is thus printed, it remains two or three days, when it is removed to the padding-shop, where it is padded, or steeped in a mixture of allum and sugar of lead,

about

\* The blocks are generally about eighteen inches long, and twelve broad, and are cut, or engraved, with the figure, or pattern, in bold relief, which is intended to be impressed on the cotton.

about one pound and a half of each to a gallon of water. This part of the business is performed by machinery. The piece is next wound upon a roller, whence it goes through a trough filled with the solution before mentioned; then passing between two cylinders, placed so near together as to press out all the superfluous liquor as it passes through; it is then carried over hot stoves, by which means it is completely dried before it reaches the opposite end of the building, where it is wound upon another roller, and carried away for the purpose of undergoing the process of singeing. In this wonderful operation the piece passes three or four times over a semi-cylindrical mass of red hot iron, called a fireman, being in complete contact with the glowing metal during its passage. This is to take the nap off the piece, and render its surface smooth and equal. After having hung up for four or five days, that the cloth may be sufficiently impregnated with the color, it is removed to the dye-house, where it is boiled in a mixture of madder, logwood, and water, about one pound and a half of each to a piece, which raises the bloom ground, leaving the object printed in the first instance with lime-juice and pipe-clay, perfectly white. It is then put into a wash-wheel, and cleansed from the color and bits of logwood which had adhered to it; and being perfectly dried, it is again calendered and padded with the same liquor, and in the same manner as before. It is now again taken to the dye-house, and boiled in wold-liquor, about one pound and a half of wold to a piece. This raises a beautiful yellow color in those parts that were previously white, without affecting the bloom ground. This color is called a fast yellow, as it cannot be washed out. The piece is then taken to be packed for sale. This is one of the simplest examples in the business, as what are called chints-patterns, with eight or even ten colors, are frequently obliged to be bleached after every color is put on; and accordingly passes through a much more complicated process.

There are two other departments, called penciling and half-grounding: the former is done entirely by girls, and consists in putting on the different colors with a brush. This is only done when the object is too difficult or complex to be worked by a block,

block, and is practised with the greatest ease and dexterity. The latter is the coarser kind of block-work, and is chiefly done by the apprentices, to instruct them in the business.

These works are reckoned the most compact, and better adapted to the purposes of printing than any in Lancashire. The shops are all detached from one another: in one the patterns are drawn; in another the blocks are cut; in a third the cloth is printed, &c.; so that every different department is conducted by a separate person, called an overlooker.

As these works are detached from any town, Messrs. Miller, Burys, and Co. have opened a shop, from which their men are supplied with every thing they may require at prime cost; and meat has frequently been sold at twopence in the pound under the market price. In and about these works are employed nearly 2000 persons; and many of the printers earn above 100*l.* and none less than 50*l.* per annum\*.

This manufacturing hamlet being some distance from the parish church, the proprietors of the works were induced, some time back, to build a *chapel* here at their own expence, and have also engaged to pay a clergyman a regular yearly salary for performing divine service.

## COLNE

Is a small market town, advantageously situated on a dry and elevated ridge, in the eastern extremity of the hundred. Dr. Whitaker asserts that this place "is unquestionably the *Cclunio* of the anonymous Ravennas, and was probably never abandoned entirely in the long and obscure period of Saxon history. *Ecclesia de*

\* In a subsequent part of this volume, when describing Manchester, I intend to detail some further particulars concerning the Cotton Manufactures, &c. For an account of some Machinery, with a Memoir of Sir *Richard Arkwright*, who was a native of *Preston*, in this county, the reader is referred to Vol. III. of this work.



*de Calna* is expressly mentioned in the charter of Hugh de la Val, which was probably not sixty years posterior to the conquest; and as it was a chapel dependant upon Whalley, the silence of Domesday-book, with respect to it, by no means disproves its existence at an earlier period. Here was one of the four manor houses of the *Lacies*, from which several of their charters are dated, now, in the mutability of all human things, degraded into the work-house of the town\*." Mr. Gough observes that Colne "has no other marks of a Roman station," than what arose from the discovery of some Roman copper coins, and others of silver, which have been found here at different periods. The latter were discovered in a silver vessel, and consisted of some of Gordian's, and some belonging to one of the Antonines†. The chapel of Colne is subordinate to the church of Whalley. It is "a spacious and decent building," and appears to have been restored, or rebuilt, about the time of Henry the Seventh, or Henry the Eighth. The font is angular, and bears the name of Townley. On three sides of the choir are portions of an old wood screen, "extremely elegant," and resembling one in the chapel at Townley, which Dr. Whitaker considers to be of the age of Henry the Eighth. In this building are two chantries; one on the north side of the choir, belonging to the *Banister family* of Parkhill, and one on the south side belonging to the *Townleys* of Barnside. Attached to the wall of the former, is the following singular inscription cut upon oak:—

" Qualibus in cælo precibus succurrere mûdo  
 ‡ \* \* \* \* \*  
 Hac recitare viâ debes letare Maria  
 Larvas interitu' diluet illa manu  
 Hyrd genetrix Christi Wilhelmum deprecor andi  
 Ne superet mors me virgo parens retiac."

Dr.

\* History of Whalley, p. 366.

† Additions to Camden, Vol. III. p. 138.

‡ The first pentameter line is wanting.

Dr. Whitaker, after printing the above inscription, says, "I am ashamed to notice the absurd and disgusting reading which has been palmed upon the last excellent editor of Camden's *Britannia*, and the equally offensive conjecture that accompanied it, from his correspondent \*. The whole was evidently a prayer addressed to the virgin, by one *Hyrd*, probably a chaplain, or chantry priest of the place, against diabolical illusions (*larvas*) in the hour of death."

The manufactories of Colne formerly consisted in woollen and worsted goods; and it appears from the *inquisitiones post mortem* of the last Henry de Laci, Earl of Lincoln, fourth of Edward the Second, that here was "one *fulling mill*," charged at 6s. 8d. This clearly implies that cloth was manufactured here at an early period, and "plainly contradicts the generally received opinion, that *English wool* was universally manufactured in Flanders, till the act of the tenth of Edward the Third, inviting over Flemish manufacturers, and granting them considerable privileges. The first fulling mill known to have been erected in the parish of *Halifax* was seventeenth of Edward the Fourth †." See Watson's *History of Halifax*, p. 66. The cotton-trade now prevails here, and the articles of manufacture consist chiefly of calicoes and dimities. For the accommodation of trade, a *Cloth-Hall*, or piece-hall has been erected here. The Leeds canal, passing within a mile of the town, has proved eminently serviceable to the manufactures of this place. The country is hilly, and abounds with coal,

\* The inscription and conjecture given by Mr. Gough, are

"Hac tentare via debes lactara Maria  
Larvas in coitu diluet illa manu.

Dr. Cowper of Chester found, 1747, an inscription in the church, or chapel, in relief, in *Saxon* characters; and the Dr. believed that Madona was sometimes invoked as a Christian *Lucina*, but did not know she previously interposed." Gough's *Additions to Camden*, Vol. III. p. 138, from the '*Antiquarian Society's Minutes*.'

† *History of Whalley*, p. 366.

Coal, stone, and slate: and about four miles distant from the town is plenty of lime-stone. Here is a weekly market on Wednesdays, and two fairs annually. Besides the parochial chapel, here is also one for the methodists\*, another for the baptists, and a free-school. In 1802, the township contained 182 houses, and 3626 inhabitants.

At BARNSIDE is an old house belonging to the Townleys. It has been strongly and durably built. About half a mile south of this is

EMMOTT-HALL, the seat of *Richard Emmott, Esq.* who is descended from an ancient family of that name; of whom, Robert de Emot held lands here in the fourth of Edward the Second. The house, says Dr. Whitaker, "is respectable and convenient, with a front of rather heavy modern architecture, and contains many portraits of the family by Mr. *John Emmott*, who was fond of painting. By the way side, near the house, is a perfect *Cress*, with the cyphers, 1. p. 8. and M. half obliterated upon the capital. A very copious spring in an adjoining field, now an excellent cold-bath, is called the Hulown, i. e. the Hallowen, or Saints-well †."

ALCANCOATS is another old mansion in the neighbourhood, and belongs to *J. Parker, Esq.*

### BURNLEY,

OR, as Dr. Whitaker writes it, *Brunley*, is a populous and thriving market town, in an advantageous and central situation, upon a lingula of land, formed by the confluence of the Calder and the Burn, from the latter of which the name is probably derived. A vicinal Roman way, from Ribchester to Slack, having passed

\* This was erected by Mr. Westley, and in 1777 one of its galleries fell, and many persons were much injured.

† History of Whalley, p. 380.



charter for a *market* every Tuesday, or Wednesday; at the same time he procured the privilege of a yearly fair to be held for three days. The market is now held on Monday, and here are also five fairs annually.

This place, like many of the Lancashire towns, has experienced a prodigious augmentation in its houses and population, within the last fifty years; and according to the returns printed for the House of Commons, in 1801, the township of Burnley contained 687 houses, and 3305 inhabitants. The cotton manufacture, in all its branches, is now fully and extensively established in this town. A few fulling mills for the woollen trade are still supported here: and on the two rivers immediately in the vicinity, are corn-mills, fulling-mills, a mill for grinding woods, &c. for the dyers, and several cotton factories. Among the mansions in the neighbourhood of Burnley, that of

TOWNLEY-HALL, a seat of *John Towneley*, Esq. is the most considerable. At an early period, probably in the reign of Stephen, or Henry the Second, the name of *Henry de Tunlay* occurs in an ancient deed, written in a semi-Saxon character: but this person, according to Dr. Whitaker, "had no relationship to the present family." Some ancestors of these resided here previous to 1181, and the name continued to be spelt as above, as lately as the time of Edward the Third. Since which era it has been written *Thonlay*, *Tounclay*, *Tounly*, *Towneley*, and *Townley*.

At a short distance south of the present mansion is a knoll, called the Castle-hill, on which it is presumed that the first dwelling-house was erected. The present is a large venerable structure, and its principal parts form three sides of a quadrangle. At the inner angles are two square embattled towers, and at each corner is a buttress, "formed for ornament and use." About a century back, the house occupied the four sides of a quadrangular court; and from the style of its architecture, combining with the general shape and extent, must then have assumed a grand collegiate-like appearance. The north-east side of this, now taken away, contained two turrets at the angles, a gateway, a chapel, and



the the Residence of the Duke of Devonshire

TOWNLEY HALL,  
the Seat of the Towneley Family

Engraved by James E. B. from a painting by the artist





and a sacristy, with a library over it. The opposite side has walls more than six feet thick, which are constructed with grout-work, and the windows are large, with square tops, &c.

Respecting the interior of this venerable mansion, it will be almost impossible to enter into particulars. In its former possessor, Charles Townley, Esq. was combined the man of acknowledged taste and virtue; and in the present proprietor is exemplified the patron and admirer of topography and English antiquity.

At Townley Hall is a regular series of family portraits, from John Townley, Esq. in the time of Elizabeth, to the parents of the late possessor. One apartment is completely filled, (besides a full length of Richard Townley, Esq. who died 1635,) with heads inserted in the pannels; and in another room is a fine picture of the first Lord *Widdrington*, who was killed in Wigan-lane.

The greatest ornaments of Townley are its fine ancient woods; the greater part of which consists of old oaks. These are dispersed over a large park, which, with the contiguous mountains and distant country, present various combinations of grand and highly picturesque scenery\*. The license for inclosing the old park at Townley bears date as per inq. sixth of Henry the Seventh.

At the south-eastern extremity of Whalley parish is the township of CLIVIGER, where a large natural gorge, or apperture, has been formed through the mountain, and whence the streams descend both to the eastern and western seas. "This pass," says the historian of Whalley, "has been evidently formed in consequence of some great convulsion of nature, which, by rending asunder the strata of the earth to a vast depth, has left a ridge of very formidable rocks on the southern side, from which the town probably took its name." Cliviger abounds with coal and iron, and it af-

VOL. IX.

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fords

\* The accompanying print, engraved from a picture by Barrett, now belonging to John Towneley, Esq. gives a miniature representation of the scenery contiguous to this mansion.

fords a single vein of lead running along one of the great fissures in the crust of the earth, which is technically known to the miners by the name of *walts*. Some curious plants are found in this district; and the inaccessible rocks are the secure haunts of hawks, and some other birds of prey. Among these, one pair of far superior size and strength, popularly called *Rock-Eagles*, but probably the true Gyr Falcon of Ray and Pennant, have annually bred for time immemorial, in defiance of all the endeavours used by sportsmen, or shepherds, to exterminate so formidable a rival of one, and robber of the other. In the year 1696, a number of *Roman coins*, and other relics, were found near Mereclough, on the skirts of the wild moors bordering on Yorkshire; and some remains of a British character have been discovered in this neighbourhood at different periods.

HOLME.—The country around this place, which belongs to the Rev. Dr. Whitaker, has been greatly improved in scenery and appearance, betwixt the years 1784 and 1799, during which period 422,000 trees of various species have been planted on the bare and rocky brows, also in the glens and gullies, of this estate. The house, like most of the ancient structures in the neighbourhood, was originally built of wood, and contained some private closets for the concealment of priests, as the family continued recusants to the latter end of Queen Elizabeth's reign. Appendant to this demesne was a chantry, founded after the dissolution of Whalley Abbey, by Tho's. Whitaker, of Holme, Gent.: but this appears to have been again dissolved in about ten years after its first endowment. The chantry was not, however, destroyed; and what is rather singular, it had a clergyman licenced to it by Bishop Pepploe, in 1742. It now belongs to Dr. Whitaker, who was licenced on his own petition. "The first step towards a re-endowment of this poor neglected foundation, was a rent charge of 11. per annum, left upon the estate of Hane, by Mr. *Henry Wood*, a native of that place, who had been clerk of the works under Sir Christopher Wren, during the rebuilding of St. Paul's Cathedral, and whose curious accounts of that great work are now in the author's possession.



possession. This was followed by several successive benefactions from the excellent fund of Queen Anne's bounty, which, with a donation of 400*l.* from the present incumbent, making in the whole 1600*l.* are all vested in lands, and produce a clear income of 80*l.* per annum.\* The old oratory being in a ruinous state, was pulled down in 1783, and a new one built on higher ground, at an expence of 370*l.* more than a moiety of which was defrayed by Dr. Whitaker. This building will hold about 400 persons.

Among the peculiarities of this district, the historian describes the propensity of the inhabitants to believe in fairies, ghosts, &c.; but remarks that the superstition of the lower class of people is singularly removed within the last thirty years. "One practical superstition, peculiar, so far as I know, to this place, deserves to be remembered. The hydrocephalus is a disease incident to adolescent animals, and is supposed by the shepherds and herdsmen to be contagious: but in order to prevent the progress of the disease, whenever a young beast had died of this complaint, it was usual, and I believe it has been practised by farmers, yet alive, to cut off the head, and convey it for interment into the nearest part of the adjoining county; Stiperden, a desert place upon the border of Yorkshire, was the place of skulls. Of so strange and fantastic a practice it is difficult to give any solution; yet it may have arisen from some confused and fanciful analogy to the case of the Azazel, (Numbers xvi. 22.) an analogy between the removal of sin, and of disease—that as the transgressions of the people were laid upon the head of the scape-goat, the diseases of the herd should be laid upon the head of the deceased animal, and that as the one was driven into the wilderness, never to return, so the other should be conveyed to a desert place, beyond an imaginary line, which its contagious effects should not be able to pass†."

WILLIAM WHITAKER, an eminent divine, was a native of

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Holme,

\* Whitaker's History of Whalley, p. 340.

† Ibid p. 342.



Holme, where he was born in the third year of Edward the Sixth, A. D. 1550. He died in 1598, in the forty-eighth year of his age, and was interred at a vast expence, and with unusual demonstrations of sorrow, in the ante-chapel of St. John's college, at Cambridge, of which he had continued master above eight years. At the age of twelve he was sent to St. Paul's school, London, then one of the most flourishing seminaries in the kingdom: and thence he was soon afterwards conveyed to Trinity College, Cambridge. About the thirty-first year of his age, he was elected regius professor; and considering the period of his life, "this elevation," says Dr. Whitaker, "must be regarded as an evidence of very extraordinary talents in the successful candidate. In 1585, he first became a controversial writer, and in the remaining ten years of his life, with many other avocations, produced that huge tome (fo. 1610) of polemical theology, which was printed some years after his death, a monument at once of incredible industry, and great facility in composition\*."

About two miles east of Burnley is ORMEROD HOUSE, which appears to have been built in, or near the year 1595, as that date, with the names of *Lawrence Ormerod*, and *Elizabeth Barcroft*, are inscribed on it. Behind the house is a grove of sycamores and elms, peopled by a numerous colony of rooks; and in this township is still preserved an instrument of ancient and approved efficacy in suppressing the licence of female tongues. It is called a *Brank*, and was placed on a woman's head, who was led, or drove through the streets, with this ignominious badge†.

## BRIERCLIFFE

\* History of Whalley, p. 467.

† For a representation of it, see Plot's History of Staffordshire, and Brand's History of Newcastle. The former Topographer, after giving a minute description of it, says it "is much to be preferred to the *ducking-stool*, which not only endangers the health of the party, but also gives the *tongue liberty 'twixt every dip*; to neither of which this is at all liable."

BRIERCLIFFE is a township which constitutes a fourth part of the extensive parochial chapelry of Burnley. It is chiefly remarkable for some encampments, &c. On the middle of *Worsthornmoor* are the remains of a small angular fort, consisting of a foss, and fragments of a wall, which inclose an area of 48 yards by 42. Vacuities for the Prætorian and Decumen gates are distinctly visible. On the top of Twist-hill, near the gully of Swinden, is another *fort*, or encampment, exactly forty-two yards square, and known to the shepherds, &c. by the name of *Twist-castle*. On the high grounds, eastward of the latter, is a circular entrenchment about fifty-eight yards in diameter: connected with these forts, were different beacons; and these, with other similar works, constituted a series of military posts, which were planted along the western side of the great ridge of hills. Dr. Whitaker, and his namesake, the acute historian of Manchester, agree in supposing that a chain of military forts were constructed in this part of the country, to defend "the *Western Setantii*, and their early colonists, from the attacks of the Eastern Brigantes."

#### HASLINGDEN

A thriving manufacturing and market town, seated on a bold and bleak elevation, between Blackburn and Bury; has been greatly improved within the last twenty years. It formerly stood on the brow of a hill, where the church, which was rebuilt about thirty years ago, in a plain, but substantial manner, still continues. The influx of inhabitants, from the introduction of the cotton manufactures, and the extent of the woollen, has occasioned a large increase of buildings into the valley below the old town, which is skirted on the west by the river Swinnel. It doubtless received its name originally from the groves of hazels which abounded here, and overspread the deans or bottomis, great quantities of the roots of those trees being frequently raised in digging. Though considered as a parish, it is only a parochial chapelry, subject to the patronage and jurisdiction of the vicar of Whalley; and within the church is a *font*, of the time of Henry the Eighth. There are



tombs over John Duckworths, who died minister here, in 1695; John Holmes, who died in 1767, and his successor Joh. Wadsworth; and on a stone before the steps of the altar, is a brass plate which commemorates *Dr. Holmes*, a native of this place, and rector of Whitechapel, in London, who died in August, 1795. By an inquisition of the parliament commissioners, in June, 1650, this parochial chapelry consisted of the township of Haslingden, with part of Rossendale, then containing about 300 families; in 1801, there were 773 families in this township only, and 4040 inhabitants. The town is governed by a constable, and six churchwardens, who have under their care six divisions, or posts; two of these have a chapel of ease of their own, subject to Haslingden, called Goodshaw chapel, about two miles on the Burnley road. A spirit of industry and enterprize pervades all ranks. Amongst other improvements, a handsome square is already completed, which contains some capital buildings. The canals, which afford the benefit of water-carriage for such heavy goods as used to pass many miles by land, are of the most essential advantage. A number of mills are established on the river for carding cotton and sheep's wool, and for spinning them into twist and woollen yarn, to make flannels.

RIBCHESTER, though now reduced to a poor humble village, was once a military Roman Station, and from the antiquities that have been found here, it is presumed that it was a place of some dignity and importance. The original name of this station has occasioned much dispute with antiquaries. Camden supposed it to be the *Coccium* of Antoninus, and the *Rigodunum* of Ptolomy. Horsley agrees to the first, but wishes to fix the latter at Warrington: and Mr. Whitaker, the historian of Manchester, contends that Ribchester must be the *Rerigonium* of Richard of Cirencester. Dr. Whitaker, the last who has investigated and discussed this subject, has satisfactorily identified it as the *Coccium* of Antoninus. "This celebrated station," writes the Dr, "was placed with the peculiar judgment which marks Agricola's encampments, for to him unquestionably it must be referred, on the northern bank



bank of the river, and flanked by the deep channel of a brook on the east, corresponding to which, on the west, is a large sluice, or channel, to which tradition has assigned an use, confirmed by many nautical relics; namely, that of a dock, or slip, for vessels. That the tides once rose so high as to waft vessels of burden to the quays of Coccium, there can be little doubt, nor is it necessary to resort to the violent expedient of an earthquake in order to account for their recess. A gradual aggression of sands, aided by strong westerly winds, and not sufficiently repelled by floods from the land, will abundantly account for an appearance so frequent, that we have almost ceased to enquire into its causes\*.

Several votive stones, and others with inscriptions, have been found here; and Dr. Whitaker has printed nine of the latter: but these do not furnish any thing curious, either relating to the place, or to the people. Beside inscribed stones, innumerable smaller antiquities have been found here: among these are many *coins* of large brass, also some *Denarii* of the upper empire. An *Intaglio* in a ruby is engraved in Leigh's Natural history: and Dr. Whitaker possesses a *gold ring*, set with a cornelian of many faces, having a representation of a dove in the centre, with the following words round it: AVE. MEA. VITA. "But the noblest discovery ever made here, or perhaps in Britain, was in the year 1796, when the shelving bank of the Ribble exposed the following remains, which seemed to have been deposited in an excavation of the earth, filled up with soil of a different quality. These were, 1st. a large flat *earthen vessel*, extremely thick, with the potter's stamp very distinct, *Boriedof, Boriedi Officina*. 2nd. An entire *Patera* of copper, about six inches diameter, with an handle. 3d. The imperfect remains of a similar vessel. 4th. A *Colum*, or *Colander*, of the same size and metal. 5th. Several concave and circular plates of copper, with loops behind, which had evidently been intended to fasten them perpendicularly against a shaft, in order to form a Roman *vesillum*: such are fre-

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\* History of Whalley, p. 16.

quent upon ancient monuments; but for a particular illustration, the reader is referred to a monument of *Lucius Duccius, Signifer* of the 9th legion in Horsey, pl. 63. 6th. A very fine *helmet*, of which the crest was a sphinx, afterwards unfortunately lost, the head-piece enriched with basso relievos of armed men, skirmishing with swords, and a vizor consisting of an entire and beautiful female face, with orifices at the eyes, mouth, and nostrils. From the style of the head piece it is conjectured by the best judges, not to be prior to the age of *Severus*; but the vizor is a much more delicate and exquisite piece of workmanship, and is supposed not only to be Grecian, but, from the boldness of its lines, to belong to a period somewhat anterior to the last perfection of the arts in that wonderful country\*.

These relics were all deposited in the museum of Charles Townley, Esq.

The helmet and mask of bronze, with some of the other Roman antiquities, were engraved for the Antiquarian Society, and published, with an account of them, in the fourth volume of the *Vetusta Monumenta*: and in the XIIIth vol. of the *Archæologia*, the Rev. Stephen Weston wrote some observations on the helmet. The latter is a singular and elegant specimen of ancient art, and according to Mr. Weston, may be considered of "the best Roman work on the Greek model." It is ornamented with a great number of figures of warriors on horse and foot, in basso-relievo.

Near the church are the remains of a rampart and foss, where *anchors* have been found, from which the place is supposed to have obtained the name of Anchor-Hill. Rings of ships were also found; and in sinking a well some years ago, a ship, or vessel, was discovered at the same place. From Ribchester, a Roman road, called the *Walling-street*, takes "a northern course over Longridge-fell, and is distinguished as a long stripe of green, intersecting the brown heath of the mountain. Having reached the summit of the hill, it takes a turn towards the north, then descends again, is very conspicuous

\* History of Whalley, p. 23.



spacious at intervals, has a broad and high ridge in the inclosures of the townships of Thornley and Chargeley, enters Bowland a little below Dowford-Bridge, passes about half a mile west of Browsholme, traverses in a direct line, the high grounds to the north of that house, and then passes to the north of Newton and Sladeburn, and traces the Hodder to its source at Cross of Greet, which is the northern boundary of the original parish of Whalley. A portion of this way, about 330 yards in length, was laid open by the cultivation of a morassy piece of ground, and is described by Rauthwell, the sensible and observing antiquary of Overborough, to have consisted of a substratum of large pebbly gravel, spread on the surface of the morass, and covered with large flat paving stones above \*."

The parish of Ribchester, with that of *Chipping*, were taken out of the original parish of Whalley: and the church at this place had formerly two chantries; one belonging to the Lord of the manor, and the other to the Townleys of *Dutton*.

Contiguous to Ribchester is the parochial Chapel of STEDE, which seems to have belonged to a guild, or hospital, of very high antiquity; and the building is said, by Dr. Whitaker, to be the oldest within the parish of Whalley. The windows are narrow, and lancet shaped, and the doors, though rather pointed, enriched with Saxon ornaments, and the whole finished in that mixture of styles which took place in the reign of King Stephen.

The inside of this small neglected edifice is still more interesting, in which divine service has been only performed twice a year since the reformation, no reading desk having been erected in it, and the prayers being read out of a pulpit which is durably elevated on a stone basis. A coffin tomb, of high antiquity, appears opposite to it, but broken open, and the fragments lying in most picturesque disorder; and the floor is strewed with ancient gravestones, some of them inscribed with Longobardic, or Norman characters; and as a contrast to this scene of squalid antiquity, the  
body

\* History of Whalley, p. 24.



body of the late catholic bishop Petre, who lived and died at Showley, in his 84th year, December 24th, 1775, lies interred under a slab of beautiful white marble, with an appropriate inscription. On account of his interment, the stone, though removed, was not taken away; the letters of which have been formed round its margin, by sinking the surface of the stone around them, and filling up the cavity by a fluid white mortar, representing a rude cameo of two colors, and exhibiting an appearance rarely to be met with. The glazing of the east window having been broken from time to time, and not repaired, allows room for the most luxuriant branches of ivy to force its way into the interior of the building, where it mantles in rich festoons over the altar\*."

In the township of Aighton, about three miles to the north-east of Ribchester, is STONYHURST, the princely mansion of the Sherburnes. "This venerable house stands on an eminence, which commands some extensive views both of Calder-bottom and Ribbles-dale; but is well screened from the north by the vast bulk and extent of Longridge-fells; and probably was begun by Sir Richard Sherburne, who died in 1594, and finished by his son in 1596. The heavy cupolas were added by Sir Nicholas Sherburne, who came to reside here in 1695; and the canals dug, and gardens laid out by himself in the Dutch taste. According to the custom of our old mansions, the domestic chapel was above the gateway; but a spacious and handsome oratory has been more recently fitted up, which, together with the size and general disposition of the apartments, render the whole easily convertible to the purpose of a large catholic seminary†," to which it is now appropriated. The house and demesne belongs to Thomas Weld, Esq. of Corfe Castle, Dorsetshire. The former is a lofty, large pile, constructed at different periods, with a court in the middle. Its entrance gateway is ornamented with columns of the different orders, placed in pairs one above the other. The apartments are spacious,

\* History of Whalley, p. 443.

† Ibid. p. 445.

spacious; particularly the hall, and two long galleries, all of which demonstrate that greatness, rather than convenience and comfort, were principally attended to at the time they were designed.

This place, with 7000*l.* a year, was left by a Duchess of Norfolk, who died in 1754, to her heirs at law, the Welds, who were descended from the only sister of her father Sir Nicholas Sherburne, Bart.

### WHALLEY,

AT the distance of seven miles from Blackburn, in the road to Clithero, though only a village, is remarkable for its ancient Abbey, and for the extent of its parish, which comprises a great part of Blackburn hundred, and contains fifteen, or as others state it, sixteen chapels within its limits, all of them possessing parochial rights. In the latter number, however, the chapel in Clithero Castle is considered as one, and the parochial chapel of St. Michael in Clithero, as another. This extent may be viewed as one of those large parishes which were formerly called *Plebania*, and deemed to be a benefice of a greater extent than even a rectory. The parish of Halifax, in Yorkshire, which joins it at one place, as appears from an ancient perambulation, may be considered as another of those, though perhaps not quite so extensive as this, has twelve chapels under it, many of which possess parochial rights. Before the dissolution, the parish of Whalley was under the jurisdiction of the Abbey, but is now a vicarage in the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury. "The endowment was anciently very considerable; but, on a complaint, so early as the year 1330, that the vicar had too large a share of the property, to the prejudice of the monastery, Roger Northborough, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, in whose diocese it then was, ordered that he should receive only sixty-six marks, and four quarters of oats, and hay sufficient for his horse. This was confirmed by the Archdeacon of Chester in 1332, who, in those days, had great power delegated to him by the bishops; and the salary is at present only 2*l.* per annum\*." At the time of the Domesday Survey, the church

\* Pentant's Tour from Downing to Alston-Moor, p. 74.



church of St. Mary, in Whalley, had two ploughlands, about 260 statute acres, free from all customs and impositions, and it had at least a square mile of wood, or about 640 statute acres; the rest, nearly 660 acres more, making in all 1561 statute acres, were then in common. But though it had so large a proportion of wood at that time, it has now only enough to adorn, but not to encumber it; and may be deemed a tract of more than usual fertility and beauty.

"Augustine, the first missionary of christianity to this island, founded a church in these parts, which was long parochial to the wide tract of Blackburnshire and all Bolland. As converts increased, more places of worship were erected. These had no particular patrons; but the lords of the soil, in which they lay, appointed their relations or friends to the cure, who were called rectors, and were generally married men and persons of property. The country at that time was very thinly peopled, and the bishops left the government of the newly erected churches to their owners, with the power of deans, an honourable appellation, for which they were long distinguished, the office being hereditary. In the reign of William Rufus, the last dean being prohibited marriage by a council, the presentation of Whalley and its chapels was granted to his relation, John, constable of Chester, and lord of Blackburn; and Henry Laci, earl of Lincoln, a successor of his, bestowed this church on the white monks of Stanlaw, in Wirral, with the proviso that if the number of monks should be augmented from forty to sixty, they should remove to Whalley. This was effected in 1296, when the new monastery was built by the munificence of the earl, who translated to it the bones of his ancestors, who had been interred at Stanlaw\*. This abbey flourished

\* "This removal soon gave umbrage to the neighbouring abbey of Salley, which complained that the new house was, contrary to the institutions of the order, placed too near to the other; that it raised the market; and, by the advanced prices of corn, salt, butter, cheese, and other articles, they suffered annually to the amount of twenty-six pounds ten shillings; but in 1305, by the



rished till the year 1536, when the abbots and monks of several convents, who before had either surrendered their houses, or been driven from them, encouraged by Aske's rebellion, or the pilgrimage of grace, repossessed themselves, and resumed their functions. Amongst others were the religious of this house, as well as others in the north; but the earl of Shrewsbury, who commanded against the rebels, had them taken out, and martial law executed upon them. John Paslew, the 25th abbot, and one of his monks, were hanged at Lancaster\*. After the dissolution it was granted, with the greatest part of the demesne, by Edward the Sixth, to Richard Ashton, of Darcy-Lever, a branch of the house of Middleton; the rest to John Braddyl, of Braddyl in this parish, whose ancestors were settled in these parts from the time of Edward the Second.† The house and manor of Whalley came into the family of the Curzons during the last century, the late Sir Nathanael Curzon having married the co-heir of Sir Ralph Ashton, and is now possessed by the second son, Ashton Curzon, Esq.

A singular grant was made, amongst others, to this abbey by Henry, Duke of Lancaster, of two cottages, seven acres of land, one hundred and eighty-three acres of pasture, and two hundred acres of

the mediation of the abbots of Revesby and Swineshead, the affair was compromised in a general chapter of the order."—See Pennant's Tour; from *Dugd. Monas.* Vol. I. fol. 697, 898.

\* Dr. Whitaker (*History of Whalley*, p. 72) observes, that "he was arraigned and convicted of high treason, at the spring assizes at Lancaster, and sent to his own town for execution, which was performed March 1536-7, upon a gallows erected on a gentle elevation in the field called the *Holehouses*, and immediately facing the house of his birth. Out of respect to his order, he is supposed to have been interred in the north aisle of the parish church under a stone yet remaining. An oaken post, which was part of the fatal apparatus, is said to have remained within the memory of aged persons," and Speed tells us, (*Book 9, c. 21*), that "two monks were executed along with the principal."

† Aikins' *History of Manchester*, p. 275, and Pennant's *Tour to Alston-Moor*, p. 70.

of wood, in Blackburn Chase. Another grant was made of the same nature, in the neighbourhood, to support a female recluse, and two women servants, within the parish church-yard of Whalley, who were perpetually to pray for the souls of the duke, and all his posterity. The convent was to repair their habitation, and to provide a chaplain and a clerk to sing mass to them in the chapel belonging to their retreat; to bestow on them weekly seventeen loaves, weighing fifty *souds de sterling* apiece, of such bread as was used in the abbey; seven loaves of the second sort; eight gallons of the better sort of beer, and three-pence for their food. "All this must have been surely intended to enable them to keep hospitality. Besides, they had annually, on the feast of All Saints, ten large stock-fish, a bushel of oatmeal for pottage, a bushel of rye, two gallons of oil for their lamps, one pound of tallow for candles, six loads of turf and one of faggots, for their fuel. On the death of any of these recluses, the duke or his heirs were to appoint successors\*."

During the civil commotions, in the year 1643, this place suffered very considerably. Having been possessed by the Earl of Derby, he posted his men in the church and tower, where they remained for some time, until the country people, who were zealous partizans for the parliament, took up arms, and with great slaughter expelled them.

The name of Whalley is of Saxon origin, from a word which signifies the *field of wells*, a term peculiarly descriptive of its situation, on the skirts of Pendle Hill, where the land, if not drained, bleeds at every pore, besides six considerable springs within the immediate limits of the place. As a parish, it had seven chapels founded either on or before 1284, viz. "Cliderhow, Calne, Brunley, Elvetham, Downur, Church, and Haslingden; and after the year 1400, those of Padiham, Whitewell, Holme, Marsden, Newchurch in Rosendale, Goodshaw, Newchurch in Pendle, Accrington, and Bacop in Rossendale, ranked according to the priority of foundation, are met with, and the last as late

as

\* Pennant's Tour from Downing to Alston-Moor, p. 68—75.



at 1788\*." By the inquisition, or parliamentary survey of 1650, it was found that the parish of Whalley consisted of thirty-five townships.

Of the church it may be observed, that the columns of the north aisle, which are cylindrical, but not massy, are the oldest parts now remaining, and must have been erected considerably later than the conquest; and the choir a little before or after 1235, when Dean Roger resigned, and Peter de Cestria succeeded as rector. The windows are lancet-shaped, the buttresses perpendicular, with little projection, and bound by a filletting or string course to the wall, differing on the whole very little from the genuine Saxon pilaster, but in the termination, which approaches to the pinnacle form, though it takes place rather beneath the square. The east window, which undoubtedly occupies the place of the three original lights always seen in the east end of the genuine buildings of this period is comparatively modern, and filled with ramified tracery. Within and on the south side of the altar, are three seats for the officiating priests, supported on small cylindrical columns. The hearth of the vestry is a very ancient gravestone, with a border of foliage, and an inscription, of which the letters remaining are of the form of Edward the First's time; probably for Peter de Cestria, who died in 1293, or Thurstan de Cestria, the first prior. Part of the stalls of the abbey have been removed into the choir, to which, however, they are so awkwardly adapted as sufficiently to prove that this was not their original situation. The pew in the church, formerly called *St. Anton's Kage*, belongs to the Townley family, in right of their manor of Hopton. A dispute arose on account of sittings in the church, and Sir John Townley, as the principal man of the parish, was sent for to decide it†; when it was remembered

\* History of Whalley, p. 225, 226, 227, &c.

† This must have been before the year, 1534, in which year the pew belonging to the manor of Read was made in consequence of this award: for the gentlemen of Read before sate at a form next to the pillar below. Shuttleworth, of Hacking, was a person of property, and, perhaps, one of the knight's esquires, or probably his principal agent.



bered that he had made use of the following remarkable words; 'my man, Shuttleworth, of Hacking, made this form, and here will I sit when I come; and my cousin Nowel may make one behind me if he please;' this is the exact relative situation of the two pews at present, 'and my sonne Sherburne shall make one on the other side, and Mr. Catteral another behind him, and for the residue the use shall be, first come first speed, and that will make the proud wives of Whalley rise betimes to come to church.' These words were reported and authenticated by the clerk, and another witness, on the information of the last agent of the abbey; and it is not likely they would soon be forgotten, as they would probably occasion some mirth in the husbands, and some spleen in the proud wives of Whalley. Of this pew, the old wainscotting still remains, though the lattice work above has been cut away."

The site of the abbey having been recently surveyed, is thus described by Dr. Whitaker\*. "The whole area of the close, containing thirty-six acres, three roods, and fourteen perches, is still defined by the remains of a broad and deep trench which surrounded it; over this were two approaches to the house through two strong and stately gateways yet remaining. They are constructed in that plain and substantial style which characterized the *Cistercian* houses, a style which approximates to that of fortification, and shews that the monks did not obtain a licence to kernel and embattels without an end in view. Within this area, and on the verge of Calder, which formed the southwest boundary of the close, was the house itself, consisting of three quadrangles, besides stables and offices. Of these the first and most westerly was the cloister court, of which the nave of the conventual church formed the north side; the chapter-house and vestry yet remaining, the east; the dormitory also remaining, the west; and the refectory and kitchens, the south. The cloister was of wood, supported as usual, upon corbels, still remaining; the area with-

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\* History of Whalley, p. 108, 109.

in was the monks cemetery, and some ancient grave-stones are still remembered within it. Against the wall on the south side of this quadrangle, is a wide surbased arch, apparently of Henry the Seventh's time, which, under one span, has evidently embraced two tombs placed lengthways against each other. Beyond this court to the east, is another quadrangular area, formed by the choir of the church on one side, the opposite side of the chapter house, &c. on another, a line of ruinous buildings on the third, and a large distinct building, itself surrounding a small quadrangle, on the fourth. This appears evidently to have been the abbot's lodgings, and must have been a modern building at the dissolution, for which reason it immediately became the residence of the Asshetons; and, after many alterations, and a demolition of its best apartments, particularly a gallery nearly 150 feet in length, has still several good and habitable rooms, and is now preserved with due care by its noble owner. The ancient kitchen, the coquina abbs of the computus, whence such hecatombs were served up, remains, though roofless, with two huge fire-places. On the southern side of this building is a small but very picturesque and beautiful ruin mantled with ivy, which appears to have been a chapel, and was probably the abbot's private oratory. But the conventual church itself, which exceeded many cathedrals in extent, has been levelled nearly to the foundation. This work of havoc was probably an effect of that general panic which seized the lay-owners of abbeyes, on the attempt made by Queen Mary to restore the monks to their cloisters. 'For now,' says Fuller, 'the edifices of abbeyes, which were still entire, looked lovingly again on their ancient owners, in prevention whereof such as possessed them for the present, plucked out their eyes by levelling them to the ground, and shaving from them as much as they could all abbey characters\*.'

VOL. IX.

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\* In the history already quoted from and referred to, is a ground Plan of the Abbey Church, with its connected buildings; also two views of the remains, and one of the cloisters. The latter are engraved from drawings of peculiar

The last Abbot of Whalley was John Paslew, who, being arraigned and convicted of high treason, the abbey, with all its appurtenances, was seized into the king's hands, A. D. 1537.

Since penning the above account, Dr. Whitaker has published a few supplementary pages to his former history of Whalley, and in these he states, that immediately after the attainder, the abbey and demesnes were committed, by letters patent, to the custody of John Braddyll, of the neighbouring house of Braddyll. "In the course of two or three weeks, Richard Pollard, Esq. one of the king's surveyors, came down, and let the demesnes in parcels for the latter half year, or from Lady-day to Michaelmas. Hence it appears that all the live stock must have been already disposed of. But, besides the demesnes, the tenants at will, who were all the inhabitants of the town, occupying with their houses small tenements of five, six, or eight acres each, were compelled to enter into new contracts, probably at advanced rents. The whole sum paid by them was only 18*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* *per annum*. The price of houses from 1*s.* to 6*d.* and even 4*d.* each. The demesne lands averaged about 2*s.* per acre, *Lancashire* measure\*, and at this low rate produced 62*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* The herbage of the park and wood, (the Lord's park), two miles in circuit, was demised to Sir Alexander Osbaldeston, for 12*l.* This, I suppose, was pretty near the current price of land at the time. Every acre of land then

liar excellence, by Turner. In the Hall of this Abbey, says Mr. Pennant in his tour to Alston-Moor, "is a strange portrait of the *Orkney hermaphrodite*, who was born in 1615, dressed in a long plaid, fastened with a brooch, a red petticoat, and a white apron, and at the feet appear the figures of a cock and a hen, to denote the duplicity of the sex. This Epicene was presented at the court of Charles the Second, in 1662."

\* This being customarily estimated at eight yards to the pole, will bear a proportion to the statute measure, as the square of eight to the square of five and a half, or as 256 to 121. Hence every customary acre of land will contain two statute acres and 560 square yards; and consequently land let at 2*s.* per acre, by the customary measure, does not amount fully to 1*s.* per acre, or less than one half. The same may be observed of the other proportions.



then let for 2s. is now worth thirty times the sum; and yet the price of the necessaries of life is not advanced in the same interval more than ten or twelve fold. The reason of this disproportion is, that in times when there is no trade, farmers must live wholly from the produce of their farms, and therefore require a much larger profit in them. This was also a reason why land-owners retained so large a portion of their estates in their own occupation. At the death of Sir John Towneley, of Towneley, A. D. 1541, the whole estate was valued at 100l. per annum. The same, when stripped of all additions by purchase or enclosures, is now worth 3000l. Nor was the price of lands in this district greatly advanced in the reign of James the First. In the year 1612, the demesnes of Towneley were surveyed, and valued at 2s. per acre. In the Parliamentary Survey, about forty years after\*, the same lands averaged between 4s. and 5s. Eight shillings per acre was about the average rent of farms here in the reign of Queen Anne. In half a century more it had increased in a ratio of two and a half to one. In the same interval, from that time to the present, it may be generally considered as trebled again†."

In the church-yard of Whalley are three ancient *stone Crosses*, views of which are given in Dr. Whitaker's work; and this gentleman conjectures that they were raised in the time of *Paulinus*, whose ministry in Northumbria commenced in 625, and terminated in 631, when he was driven from that kingdom. Soon after the establishment of christianity in the Anglo-Saxon dominions, it was customary to raise stone-crosses in church-yards at the time of consecrating those places, and in many other situations upon the ratification of any solemn covenant or agreement‡.

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\* This was in 1650, i. e. or 1651, thirty-eight or thirty-nine years after; but most of the surveys were made in 1650.

† History of Whalley, p. 124.

‡ See Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, Vol. II. Pref. p. 177; also Architectural Antiquities, Vol. I. where, in plate 1, fig. 4, will be seen the representation of a stone cross, similarly ornamented to one of those at Whalley.

In the village of Whalley is a small School of the foundation of Edward the Sixth, which, with those of Middleton and Burnley, have thirteen scholarships in Brazen-nose College, Oxford. This township, as distinct from the other parts of the parish, in 1801, contained 154 houses, and 876 inhabitants.

LITTLE MITTON is a hamlet and manor within the parish of Whalley, and with *Henthorn* and *Coldcoats*, form one township. It stands near the confluence of the Ribble, the Hodder, and the Calder rivers. The Manor-House, the seat of *Richard Henry Beaumont*, Esq. F. A. S. is a fine specimen of that style of domestic architecture which prevailed in the reign of Henry the Seventh. Its basement story is of stone, and the upper part is formed of wood. The Hall, with its embayed window, screen, and gallery over it, is peculiarly fine and curious: "the roof is ceiled with oak in wrought compartments; the principals turned in the form of obtuse Gothic arches; the pasterns deeply fluted; their capitals, where they receive the principals, enriched with carving; the walls covered with wainscoat, and the bay window adorned with armorial bearings in painted glass. The screen is extremely rich, but evidently of more modern style than the rest of the wood work. Upon the pannels of it are carved, in pretty bold relief, ten heads, male and female, within medallions, which have a rude kind of character, and were evidently intended for portraits."

"The situation of Little Mitton is a remarkable instance of the predilection of our ancestors for a southern aspect; to attain which they have turned the front of the house against a marsh overgrown with alders, and have neglected one of the most delicious landscapes in Ribblesdale, which opens to the north and west\*."

The

\* History of Whalley, p. 237, in which there is an extremely fine print of the Hall at Mitton, from a drawing by W. M. Craig.

The village of GREAT MITTON, though within the boundary of Yorkshire, is a portion of Whalley parish; and its *Church* is boldly seated on a high precipitous bank, above the river Ribble, near its junction with the Hodder. The church appears to be about the age of Edward the Third, and contains several monuments and tombs to the memory of the Sherburnes of Stonyhurst, in this parish. Most of these are within a private chapel or chantry\*, on the north side of the choir. The most ancient of the monuments is that to the memory of Sir Richard Sherburne, who, according to the inscription, was "master forester of the forest of Bowland, Steward of the manor of Sladeburn, Lieutenant of the Isle of Man, and one of her Majesty's deputy Lieutenants in the county of Lancaster." Sir Richard died the 26th of July, 1594. Here is a mural monument to another Richard Sherburne and his Lady, kneeling: he armed; she in a ruff, with a black hood turning from behind over the top of her head. Three Altar-tombs, with recumbent figures in white marble, having long hair and loose gowns over their coats; one of these has his Lady lying by him. All of them are of the name of Richard, and each figure is spurred, and placed cross-legged. A long inscription to the memory of Sir *Nicholas Sherburne*, among other things, states, that he "was a man of great humanity, simpathy, and concern for the good of mankind, and did many charitable things while he lived; he particularly set his neighbourhood a spinning of Jersey wool, and provided a man to comb the wool, and a woman who taught them to spin, whom he kept in his house, and allotted several rooms he had in one of the courts of Stonihurst, for them to work in, and the neighbours came to spin accordingly; the spinners came every day, and span as long a time as they could spare, morning and afternoon, from their families: this continued from April 1699, to August 1701. When they had all learn'd, he gave the nearest neighbour each a pound, or half a

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pound

\* A View of this is given in the *History of Whalley*, from an exquisite drawing by Turner.



pound of wool ready for spinning, and wheel to set up for themselves, which did a vast deal of good to the north side of Ribble, in Lancashire. Sir Nicholas Sherburn died December 16th, 1717. This monument was set up by the dowager duchess of Northfolk, in memory of the best of fathers and mothers, and in this vault designs to be interr'd herself, whenever it pleases God to take her out of the world." "This epitaph, or rather history," says Dr. Whitaker, "was written by the Duchess herself, who had certainly no mercy on the marble cutter."

The two tombs, and four statues of the father and mother, grandfather, and grandmother of Sir Nicholas Sherburne, were finished in 1699, for 253l. by William Stanton, lapidary, who lived near St. Andrew's Church in Holborn, London. The two male figures on these tombs, Dr. Whitaker says, "are probably the latest instances of cumbent cross-legged statues in the kingdom." In November, 1328, Archbishop Melton appropriated the church of Mitton to the Abbey of Cockersand, reserving to himself 40s. per annum, and 20s. to the deacons of his cathedral, ordaining also a perpetual vicar, presentable by the convent.

Near Mitton is BASHALL, a plain large house, formerly belonging to the Lacies, and granted by them to the Talbots, who possessed it for many centuries; but the present mansion appears to have been erected since the extinction of this family, and now belongs to John Lloyd, Esq. of *Gwerhlás*, in Merionethshire.

WADDOW HALL, also on the Yorkshire side of the Ribble, and immediately opposite to Clithero, is the seat of *Thomas Weddel*, Esq. The house is seated in a most romantic and picturesque district, on the side of a round and insulated hill, that rises from the bank of the river, which here runs furiously over a rocky channel. The views from this mansion, and the surrounding eminences, are greatly diversified, and comprehend the town and castle of Clithero, with the hills of Pendle, Penygent, and the more lofty Wharnside.

In this parish is the chapelry of WADDINGTON, where is an *Almshouse*, which was founded and endowed in 1700, by *Robert Parker*,

*Parker*, Esq. of Browsholme, in this parish. WADDINGTON HALL, a stone house, with small ancient windows, and a narrow winding stair-case, though now the residence of several poor families, formerly afforded shelter and protection to the meek and ill-fated, King Henry the Sixth, after the fatal battle of Hexham, in 1463. The monarch was conveyed into this county, where he was concealed by his vassals for a whole year, notwithstanding the most diligent search was made after him. At length he was surprised at dinner, in Waddington Hall, and taken near Bangerley hipping, or stepping stones. The account which Leland\* gives from an ancient chronicle, agrees with the tradition of the country, that he was betrayed by Thomas Talbot of Bashaill, and John, his cousin, of Colebry. The house was beset, when the king contrived to escape, and fled for some distance, but was pursued and taken. He was tied on a horse, and carried to London as a prisoner. Rymer† has preserved the grant of a reward for this service, dated from Westminster, 9th July, 1465. At this time Waddington belonged to the Tempests, who inherited it by virtue of the marriage of their ancestor, Sir Roger, in the reign of Edward the First, with Alice, daughter and heiress of Walter de Waddington.

BROWSHOLME, the seat of *Thomas Lister Parker*, Esq. is within the boundary of the original parish of Whalley, in the county of York. It stands on a commanding elevation, in a tract of land formerly part of the forest of *Bowland*‡, which, though

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now

\* Collectanea, Vol. 11, p. 500, from which Holiushed and Stow have copied their accounts of this event.

† Fœdera, Vol. 11, p. 548.

‡ "The whole tract of country vulgarly called Bowland, and consisting of the parishes of *Slayburn* and *Mitton*, together with the forest properly so called, is equally a member of the fee or honor of *Clithero*, and was equally comprehended within the original parish of *Whalley*; but the two former were

now enclosed, and mostly cultivated, was within a few years ranged by several herds of wild deer; the last of these was destroyed in the year 1805. Browseholme has long been the seat, or lodge of the Bowbearer\*, or master-forester of the district†: and this title and office has been retained by the present worthy possessor. "Here have been two lawnds, or enclosures for deer, Radholme lawnd, and Lathgram Park. The beautiful river *Hodder*, famous for its umber, rising near the cross of Grete, and passing through the parish of *Sladeburn*, intersects the forest, and forms the only ornamental scenery of a tract, otherwise bleak and barren, by its deep and fringed banks. On one of these is the little chapel of *Whitewell*, together with an inn, the court-house of *Bowland*, and, undoubtedly, a very ancient resting-place for travellers journeying from Lancaster to Clithero, or Whalley. The landscape here is charming—the *Hodder* brawling at a great depth beneath the chapel,

were separated at an early period from their mother church, and at the Domesday Survey were taken as portions of the manor of Grindleton, as they have since been of Slaydburn; but the forest of Bowland, in the strict sense, was, in its civil relation, always taken as one of the demesnes of the castle, and subject to the court of *Woodnote* alone; and its ecclesiastical was always a portion of the extra parochial tract called the Castle-parish, and uniformly paid tythes to the Abbey of Whalley, after the annexation of the chapel of St. Michael in Castro."—History of Whalley, p. 206.

\* Dr. Whitaker thinks that the title of Bowbearer is allusive to *this* forest: but we find it in different Archaeological works applied to an under officer of the forest; and in *Crompt. Jur.* fo. 201, his peculiar duty is defined.

† One custom in letting the great sheep farms in the higher parts of Bowland, deserves to be mentioned, as I do not know, says Dr. Whitaker, that it prevails any where else.—It is this, that the flock, often consisting of 2000 sheep, or more, is the property of the lord, and delivered to the tenant by a schedule, subject to the condition of delivering up an equal number of the same quality at the expiration of the term. Thus the tenant is merely usufructuary of his own stock.—The practice was familiar to the Roman law, and seems to have arisen from the difficulty of procuring tenants who were able to stock farms of such extent.



chapel, washes the foot of a tall conical knoll, covered with oaks to its top, and is soon lost in overshadowing woods beneath.—But it is for the pencil, and not the pen, to do justice to this scene. On the opposite hill, and near the keeper's house, are the remains of a small encampment, which has been supposed to be Roman, but the remains are too inconsiderable to justify any conjecture about them. At no great distance a cairn of stones was opened, and found to contain a sort of kist-vaen, and a skeleton: it is singular that neither of these remains have been noticed by *Rauth-mill*, the diligent and accurate investigator of the Roman antiquities of his own neighbourhood: but as he was minister of Whyte-well, he could scarcely be ignorant of this encampment, and may therefore be presumed not to have thought it Roman. On an adjoining height was discovered a quarry and manufactory of querns, or portable millstones, of which, though probably introduced by the Roman soldiers into Britain, the use appears to have continued among us till after the Norman conquest\*.”

The mansion at Browseholme is a large pile of building, with a centre, and two wings projecting at right angles from the ends. In the front of the centre is an ornamental façade of three stories, with pilasters of four orders of architecture, and the whole in the fashion of Elizabeth and James the First's reigns.

Though many very considerable improvements have been progressively made, and are still making in the house, yet the present possessor carefully guards against any innovations or alterations in the exterior character of this venerable and interesting specimen of ancient domestic architecture. Within the house is a fine old library, well stored with curious, useful, and amusing literature; a collection of coins, and a valuable assemblage of manuscripts, many of which relate to the history and antiquities of the neighbourhood. Among other curiosities preserved here with laudable attention, is the *Original Seal* of the Commonwealth, consisting of massy silver, and inscribed “*The Seal for approbation of Ministers.*”

\* History of Whalley, p. 208.

*Ministers.*" "The papers of the family contain many curious and original documents of those times, and a large collection of songs and ballads relative to the rump parliament, which have never yet been published. The stair-case is rich in painted glass. Many of the coats of arms were brought from Whalley abbey\*." In different apartments are several fine paintings by the best Flemish masters, and many excellent productions of the present English school. I greatly regret that I cannot, at present, give a list even of the *principal* of these, but as I shall have occasion hereafter, in the account of Yorkshire, to relate some further particulars concerning this part of the county, I hope then to be able to render more justice to the place, and to its liberal possessor.

"The hall, forty feet long, is furnished with many antiquities; such as the *Ribchester* inscription of the XXth legion, celts, fibulæ, different pieces of armour, and particularly a small spur found in the apartment called King Henry the Sixth's, at Waddington Hall. Among the rest is a complete suit of buff, worn by one of the family, a sufferer for his loyalty in the great rebellion†."

Dr. Whitaker states, that the only vestige of the forest laws preserved here is the *Stirrup*, through which every dog, excepting those belonging to the lords, must pass. He also mentions the following portraits. A head of *Jean de Paresa*, by *Velasquez*, which is esteemed one of the best portraits, by that master, in England. Another of *Edward Parker*, Esq. who was bowbearer of Bowland about 1690, and who appears in the costume of his office, with a staff tipped with a buck's horn, and a bugle-horn tucked under his girdle.

At the south-west extremity of the township of Clayton-les-Moors is DUNKENHAIGH, which appears to have been possessed by

\* History of Whalley, p. 214.

† Ibid.

by a family of that name at a remote period. It was purchased towards the end of Elizabeth's, or beginning of James the First's reign, by Sir *Thomas Walmsley*, Knight, one of the justices of the court of common pleas, and now belongs to a descendant of the late Robert Edward Lord Petre.

At a short distance south-west of Ribchester is **SAMLESBURY**, an extensive manor, which continued the property of the great family of Southworth for 350 years. The manor house was formerly moated round, and inclosed three sides of a large quadrangle. In the centre was the great Hall, "a noble specimen of most rude and massy wood-work, though repaired in 1532, by Sir Thomas Southworth, whose name it bears, is of very high antiquity, probably not later than Edward the Third. The remaining wing, which is built of wood towards the quadrangle, and brick without, (the earliest specimen of brick work in the parish), is of a later date. There is about this house a profusion and bulk of oak, that must almost have laid prostrate a forest to erect it. The principal timbers are carved with great elegance, and the compartments of the roof painted with figures of saints, while the outsides of the building are adorned with profile heads of wood cut in bold relief within huge medallions; it is curious to observe that the inner doors are without a pannel, or a lock, and have always been opened, like those of modern cottages, with a latch and a string. It is also remarkable, that in this house the boards of the upper floors, which are indeed massy planks, instead of crossing, lie parallel to the joysts, as if disdaining to be indebted to the other for support\*."

**SALESBURY HALL**, on the banks of the Ribble, nearly opposite Ribchester, has been successively the property of the Salesburies, Clitheroes, and Talbots, the last a branch from Baskall. This is the birth-place of *Thomas Talbot*, who, in the year 1580,

\* History of Whalley, p. 474.



1580, was keeper of his Majesty's records in the Tower, and rendered assistance to Camden in furnishing him with a catalogue of Earls, for his *Britannia*. He also made considerable collections for the history of Yorkshire: some of these are deposited in the British Museum, and some in the Herald's office. In the epistle dedicatory to Mills' catalogue of honor, he is called "Limping Thomas Talbot, a great genealogist, and of excellent memory\*." The remains of the Hall here, are partly wood and partly stone; and the whole formerly encompassed a quadrangular court. A piece of Roman sculpture of Apollo, from Ribchester, has been incorporated in one of the walls.

In a low situation, on the banks of the Calder, is GAWTHORP, the ancient residence of the Shuttleworths, who were settled here as early as the time of Richard the Second. The house is an ancient embattled building, and, according to Dr. Whitaker, "combines the picturesque effect of the castellated mansion with some degree of internal lightness and convenience." In the vicinity of this, is HUNTROYD, a modern mansion, in a fine romantic country, belonging to *Legendie Piers Starkie, Esq.*

LEYLAND HUNDRED is the smallest of the six subdivisions of this county, and has the river Ribble for its northern boundary, whilst West-Derby hundred forms its southern and south-western extremity; and the hundreds of Salford and Blackburne join it to the east and south-east. This hundred presents nearly a flat surface, and has portions of the Lancaster, and the Leeds and Liverpool canals passing across its eastern side. Three great turnpike roads from Wigan to Preston, and from Liverpool to the latter town, are also carried through it. Within this district is only one market town.

CHORLEY.

\* See Gough's Topography, Vol. 11. 397.

## CHORLEY.

THIS town stands on the great turnpike road between Liverpool and Preston, near the source of a small rivulet, called the Chor, which gives its name to the place. The river Yarrow, rising in the moors to the east, flows near the town, and gives motion to numerous mills that are erected on its banks; these, with the printing, and bleaching grounds, for many miles round, intermixed with the cotton factories, conspire to communicate to the whole district an aspect of extreme bustle and industry. The church here, for it has been lately made parochial, and separated from the parish of Croston, is an ancient pile of building, the walls of which are studded with several coats of arms and old inscriptions, and the windows are decorated with various paintings.

The town consists of two lordships, which belong to different proprietors. Its police is governed by one magistrate, who, with one or more magistrates for the county, hold a petty sessions here, and at Rivington, near it, once a month alternately. The Bishop of Chester also holds a court here twice a year, by his steward or proxy. Chorley is a very improving place; and to render it more so, various clubs, and a building tontine, have been established; to encourage new erections, which the population of its vicinity, the plenty and cheapness of provisions, and abundance of materials for dwelling houses, with the numerous manufactories in the parish and neighbourhood, so naturally tend to support and encourage. The plenty of coals also, with lead, alum, sand, and marle, as well as the quarries of flag, slate, ashler, and millstones, procured here, and sent to various parts of the kingdom, by means of the Lancaster, and Leeds and Liverpool canals, which pass close to the town, are highly favourable to such speculations. In the year 1801, this town contained 4516 inhabitants, having at that time 840 inhabited houses, occupied by 920 families.

In the church-yard is a *Grammar-School*, which, though endowed with some legacies, has not any free scholars. An almshouse,



house, for the support of six poor persons, and a *prison* have been erected in this town. Here are two weekly markets, and four annual fairs, which are much resorted to.

About one mile west of the town, is the site of GILLIBRAND HALL, the proprietor of which, *Thomas Gillibrand, Esq.* is Lord of one of the manors already mentioned. The old house, which was surrounded by a moat, has been recently taken down, and the foundation of a new mansion is just laid.

Near the village of *Rivington* is a lofty hill, noted for a high peak, or *beacon*, which served in the civil wars as a watch-tower, or signal post. From its commanding situation, and the extensive views obtained from it, many parties frequent this elevated spot during summer evenings. In the village is a *free grammar-school*, founded by *James Pilkington*, Bishop of Durham, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and endowed with lands situated in that bishopric.

At the distance of six miles, south of Chorley, is the township of STANDISH, where a family of the name of Standish appears to have been settled from a period soon after the conquest. Of this family was *John Standish, Esq.* who, according to Holinshead, was a servant to King Richard II. and distinguished himself by wounding Watt Tyler, in the memorable rencontre between him and the monarch, in Smithfield. For this service he, with the mayor and citizens who were then present, were knighted. Among other eminent persons in this family, was Sir Ralph Standish, who commanded an army in France under Henries the Fifth and Sixth; and Sir Alexander Standish, who was knighted for his valiant behaviour at the battle of Hopton-field, in Scotland, in 1482. Henry Standish also, who was made Bishop of St. Asaph, in 1519, accompanied Sir John Baker on an embassy to Denmark, in 1526; and, in 1530, was one of the bishops who assisted Queen Catherine in the suit concerning her divorce from Henry the Eighth. The living of Standish is a rectory worth more than 700*l.* per annum,



manum, and is in the gift of the Lord of the manor. The church, a handsome building, with a steeple, was erected in 1584, chiefly by the aid of the rector, who maintained the workmen with provisions during the time. Within it is a tomb of Sir *Edward Wrightinton*, Knt. an eminent counsellor, who died in 1658. Another is raised to the memory of the first protestant rector, *Richard Moodie*, of whom there is a statue, dressed in a Franciscan habit, of which order he had been before he conformed to the protestant establishment, with an inscription declarative of his munificence, as above stated.

The seat of Sir *Frank Standish*, bart. is at DUNBURY HALL, about a mile and a half south of Chorley, on the west side of the road towards Adlington Hall, in the way to Wigan. This place is chiefly appropriated to a Stud-Farm.

Dr. Leigh has represented and described a small *signet* in a copper Urceolus, which was found near Standish; at which place were also discovered, at the same time, about 200 Roman coins, "and two gold rings, of the equites aurati, or Roman knights\*." The township of Standish, with Langtree, in 1801, contained 307 inhabited houses, and 1542 inhabitants.

WRIGHTINTON HALL, to the west, is an old stone house, situated in a small, but beautiful park; and is noted for having the first sash-windows of any house in the county, or in any part of the kingdom northward of the Trent. The Lancaster canal passes at a short distance on the south-west of Wrightinton and Standish, and greatly facilitates the conveyance of coals, with which the parish abounds, as well as cotton goods and coarse linens, which are here manufactured.

About three miles and a half south of Chorley, and within two miles to the north-east of Standish, is ADLINGTON HALL, the seat of Sir *Richard Clayton*, Bart. a modern house, erected by the present owner on the site of the old mansion. An ancestor  
of

\* Natural History of Lancashire, Part 3, fol. 81, 101, 105.

of this family came to England with William the Conqueror, and had the manor of Clayton, near Leyland, conferred upon him for his services. A family of the name of Adlington formerly possessed the estate of Adlington; but it has been in the possession of the Claytons for nearly two centuries, who have made it their constant residence. The house is situated on a gentle elevation, and forms a prominent feature in the landscape from many stations in the surrounding country. It has a southern aspect, and appears to the eye at a distance, as if

“Bosom'd deep in tufted trees.”

The collection of pictures is not large, but amongst them the following may be mentioned as worthy of praise:—David with the head of Goliath—Mars and Venus, by *L. Giordano*—ARCHBISHOP LAUD, by *Vandyck*—A dead head of Charles the First, an admirable painting—NELL GWYN, by *Sir Peter Lely*—Virgin and Child, by *Carlo Dolce*, an undoubted work of this master, and in his best manner—St. John, by *Guercino*—Pope PIUS the Sixth, placing the helmet on the head of Lieut. Colonel Browne, with his benediction, by *Northcote*. Besides these, here are several family pictures, by *Sir Godfrey Kneller*, and other masters.

North of Chorley is the parish and township of WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, the natal place of *Sir JONAS MOORE*, who was born in the year 1614. Distinguished for his mathematical skill, he was particularly patronized by King Charles the Second, and appointed by him surveyor-general of the ordnance. He was also one of the governors of Christ's Hospital, and induced the king to found a mathematical school in that great national seminary; for the use of which, *Sir Jonas* compiled a general system of mathematics, in two volumes, quarto, which work, the first of the sort in England, was published after his death in 1681. He was the first to discover and promote the talents of *Flamsteed*, who was ultimately placed in the Royal Observatory, at Greenwich, at the express recommendation of *Moore*. He died in 1679,  
and

and was interred in St. Peter's church, in the tower of London, where a handsome marble monument, with a long inscription, has been raised to his memory, by his son-in-law, William Hanway, Esq.\*.

CHISENHALE, or CHISNAL-HALL, about two miles north-west from Standish, was the ancient residence of a family of that name, who had long been its proprietors. At this place was born EDWARD CHISENHALE, Esq. who bore a colonel's commission in the royal army during the civil wars in Charles the First's reign. He was one of the six captains selected by Charlotte, countess of Derby, for the defence of Lathom house, at the memorable siege of that place, in 1644, where, with singular address, and a skilful manœuvre, he drew off the besiegers into a private place, and cut off 500 of them, under the specious pretence that the house was opened†. For this exploit he was fined 800*l.* for delinquency. Granger‡ mentions another anecdote of him, that "he sallied forth just after the enemy had been boasting of their provisions, and stole their dinner." As a literary character, no less than a military one, "he well deserves to be remembered," being the author of a Catholic History, collected out of Scriptures, Councils, Fathers, &c. occasioned by Dr. Thomas Vane's book, called *The Lost Sheep Returned*, 1653, small 8vo. the frontispiece of which presents a portrait of him, with various significant and emblematic figures. At this time Dr. Vane was a convert to popery. The old manor house is entirely destroyed, and the estate, on which is a farm-house, belongs to James Hammerton, Esq. of Hallyfield-Peel, in Yorkshire.

VOL. IX.

M

\* See Birch's History of the Royal Society, Vol. IV. p. 106, &c. Aubrey's MSS. in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford.

† See Peck's Desid. Cur. XI. p. 42, &c. and Lloyd's Memorials, p. 690.

‡ Biographical Hist. of Engl. Vol. III, 8vo. 1804, p. 106.



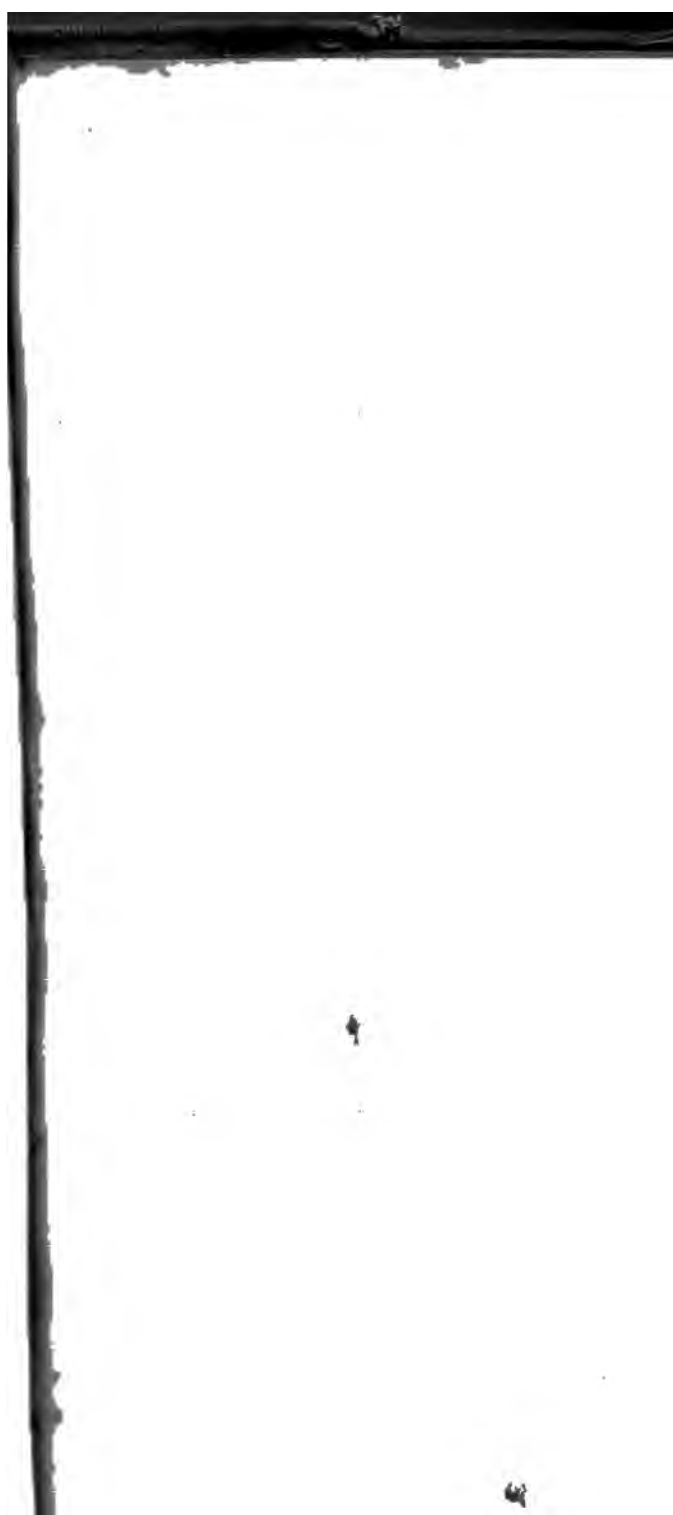
**LEYLAND**, or *Layland*, once of sufficient consequence to give name to the Hundred, is a township which comprehends a population of 2,088 persons. The Church consists of one room, measuring sixty five feet by thirty-three, and in it are several monuments to the Farington family.

**SHAW-HALL**, belonging to ——— Farington, Esq. is a large irregular mansion, containing some fine apartments; also a museum of natural history, and some curious Fresco paintings brought from the dilapidated walls of Herculaneum. The house and grounds command some pleasing and extensive views. Its proprietor is lord of the manor of this place, and also of the fee or honor of Penwortham, with some other contiguous manors.

Subordinate to, and dependant on Leyland, are the Chapelries of Euxton and Heapy.

THE eastern part of this hundred being bounded by a flat shore, is subject to occasional inundations of the tides; and much injury and damage were sustained in December, 1720, by a violent *Storm*, which occasioned the sea to overflow a large tract of country. The sea-banks, ramparts, and other fences, were then thrown down and washed away; and an area of about 6600 acres of land was inundated by the devastating waves. Several houses, cattle, and a quantity of grain, were washed away; and the ravages extended into the several parishes and townships of Hesketh cum Beconsall, Tarlton, North Meals, Ince Blundell, Lythem, Warton, Westley cum Plumpton, and even as far as Cockerham. The damages produced by this accident were estimated at 10,227l. and, in 1722, several briefs were read, in order to obtain some remuneration for the great losses of the suffering inhabitants.

**WEST DERBY HUNDRED** is a large maritime district, consisting chiefly of a flat tract of land, included between the river Mersey, skirting its southern and western sides; and the hundreds of Ley-





VIEW OF LITERATURE



land and Salford, which form its northern and eastern boundaries. Near the middle of this district, and at its eastern border, are some large tracts of mosses; and in the vicinity of Up-Holland and Wigan are some pits of the cannel coal. A small elevated ridge crosses this hundred from south to north; and besides several rivulets that fall into the Mersey, this district is abundantly supplied with turnpike-roads, and canals. West Derby, that gives name to the hundred, is now an inconsiderable hamlet, contiguous to Knowlsley Park, the proprietor of which takes the title of Earl from this obscure place. The principal town in this hundred is the populous and prosperous sea-port of

## LIVERPOOL.

"Where Mersey's stream, long winding o'er the plain,  
Pours his full tribute to the circling main,  
A band of fishers chose their humble seat;  
Contented labour bless'd the fair retreat;  
Inur'd to hardship, patient, bold, and rude,  
They brav'd the billows for precarious food:  
Their straggling huts were rang'd along the shore,  
Their nets and little boats their only store."

DR. AIKIN.

AMONG the number of commercial towns in Great Britain, it may safely be said, that not one has so rapidly advanced to great extent, and great opulence, as that of Liverpool. From a small inconsiderable hamlet, merely a member of the parish of Walton, this thriving sea-port, by the spirited industry, enterprising pursuits, and speculating habits of its chief inhabitants, has, within the last century, been singularly advanced in the scale of national importance; and whilst many cities and boroughs have gradually sunk into that insignificance and degradation, which almost inevitably close the career of corruption and vassalage, Liverpool has extended her streets, augmented her commerce, and improved in the riches, arts, and luxuries, of civilized life. Though it would be no very difficult task to ascertain the cause, and develope the effects of this progressive amelioration, yet the enquiry would extend to a

length incompatible with the limited nature of this work; and I am therefore compelled to confine my observations to a few leading points in the history of the place, and dwell only on its most prominent objects.

A magnanimous and liberal spirit has certainly impelled the corporate body, and many individuals of this town, to the adoption and prosecution of several schemes, of great local advantage and public good. In the course of the present essay, I shall have ample occasion to illustrate and establish this proposition.

" Far as the eye can trace the prospect round,  
The splendid tracks of opulence are found :  
Yet scarce an hundred annual rounds have run,  
Since first the fabric of this power begun ;  
His noble waves inglorious, Mersey roll'd,  
Nor felt his waves by labouring art control'd.  
Along his side a few small cots were spread,  
His finny brood their humble tenants fed ;  
At op'ning dawn, with fraudulent nets supply'd,  
The padding skiff would brave his specious tide,  
Ply round the shores, nor tempt the dang'rous main,  
But seek ere night the friendly port again\*."

A history of Liverpool must be an account of the people rather than that of the place; for if the town be divested of its complicated traffic, increased shipping, and nautical erections, it presents little else to recompence enquiry, or gratify curiosity.

Concerning the original name of this place, and the different modes in which that has been written at various periods, it would neither be very amusing, or useful, to enter into particulars: for though all the topographers of Liverpool have said a good deal on this subject, they have not developed much substantial information by their dissertations†. It may, however, be safely asserted

\* W. ROSCOE—from a descriptive poem entitled *Mount-Pleasant*.

† Some writers have deduced the name from the Saxon word *Lithor-pool*:

asserted that there is more reason in deriving the original name of places from peculiarity of situation, than from Patronymic distinction; for though this may be frequently the case in *distinctive* appellations, yet it will generally be found that families have rather derived their names from places, than on the contrary. The ancient history of Liverpool is extremely meagre; and it can scarcely lay claim to one object of antiquity. Camden states, that Roger de Poitiers, who had lands given him, in this part of the county, by William the Conqueror, built a Castle here, "the custody of which," he says, "has now, for a long time, belonged to the noble and knightly family of Molyneux, whose chief seat is in the neighbourhood of Sefton, which Roger, aforesaid, in the early Norman times, gave to Vivan de Molyneux. This Roger held, as appears by Domesday-book, all the lands between the rivers Ribble and Mersey." The statement of Camden, relating to the *original* castle at Liverpool, is extremely equivocal; but it is probable that Prince John, son of Henry the Second, erected a fortress here. For that monarch having granted his son the Lordship of Ireland, with its dependencies, and as the newly constituted port of "Lyrpul" was most conveniently situated for shipping stores, &c. for that island, it became necessary to secure the place by a military establishment. Besides, it appears that the town had acquired some comparative distinction, as Henry the Second, in the year 1173, granted it a charter, wherein it is stated, "that the whole estuary of the Mersey shall be for ever a port of the sea, with all liberties to a port of the sea belonging; and that place which the men of Lyrpul call Litherpul, near to Toxteth, from each side of the water they may come and return with their ships and merchandize freely, and without obstruction\*." In this document we re-

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cognize

others from a bird called *Lier* or *Lever*, though no such bird has been found here. Another author derives it from a species of the Hepatica, or Liverwort; and another from a family named Lever, who were settled here at an early period.

\* Translation of the Charter in a late "History of Liverpool." There



cognize the origin of a town, which was then a place of trifling import, and which continued so for many centuries. Yet in different subsequent charters, it is spoken of by each monarch as "our borough or vill" of Liverpool; and mention is made of persons holding burgages under the crown. A second charter was granted to the town by king John, in the ninth year of his reign, A. D. 1209\*, who is therein styled "Lord of Ireland," a place that was not mentioned in the preceding charter. This only alludes to burgage houses, and the free possession of the same by any of the king's "faithful subjects." In the next reign, (Henry the Third), the burgesses renewed their charter, but were obliged to pay "a fine of ten marks in money;" and "a merchant-guild, or society," was then established. It was stipulated that "no strangers should then carry on business in the town, without the consent of the burgesses." This prohibitory and impolitic clause seems to have continued in force till about the middle of the reign of George the Second, when strangers were allowed to settle in the town, upon the payment of a small fine. "Since the beginning of the present century this demand has been discontinued; and the town, although a borough, may be considered as perfectly free, for the purpose of commerce, to all the world."

In adopting this wise principle, the burgesses of Liverpool have set an example peculiarly worthy of imitation; for by encouraging the industrious and speculating tradesman to settle here, the town consequently increases its population, commerce, and riches. Whilst the selfish and slothful proprietors of those  
boroughs,

appears some ambiguity relating to this Charter; for in a petition from the corporation to the king, 1751, the petitioners state that Liverpool "*is a very ancient borough by prescription, long before the time of king John, who granted its first charter.*"

\* In the history of Liverpool now publishing in numbers, there appears some confusion respecting this date: as at page 42 it is said that the Charter of John is dated A. D. 1207; afterwards it appears to be given in the 9th year of his reign, (1209,) and in the next page it is said to be "granted to Liverpool in the year 1203."

boroughs, whose chartered laws entitle them to exclude all strangers, are gradually sinking to poverty and shame, the inhabitants of the free town are stimulated to energy by competition, and are advanced to riches and honor by laudable industry and unrestrained talent. These remarks could be satisfactorily elucidated by reference to numerous boroughs, which are notorious for their venality, corruption, and impoverished appearance.

The following concise notice by Leland, will furnish us with some idea of the place during the reign of Henry the Eighth.

"Lyrpole, alias Lyverpoole, a *paved* towne, hath but a chapel. Walton, a iiii miles off, not far from the *Le*, is parochie church. The king hath a castelet ther, and the Erle of Darbe hath a stone-house ther. Irish marchaunts come much thither us to a *good haven*. Good marchandis at Lyrpool, and much Yrish yarn that Manchester men do by ther. At Lyrpole is *smale* custume payd, that *causith* marchauntes to resorte \*."

From this early and accurate tourist, we learn that Liverpool was a *paved* town when he visited it, much resorted to by Irish merchants, &c. and that its small port duties were then deemed attractions to traders. This account is rather vague, and from the town record of November 1565, which is more decisive, we find that the merchandize and commerce of the place were then much reduced, or had not been previously of that extent which Leland's terms imply. According to this document, Liverpool contained only 138 householders and cottagers. Besides, in a petition from the inhabitants to Queen Elizabeth, in 1571, the place is styled "her Majesty's poor *decayed* town of Liverpool." The term *decayed* indicates that, from some cause unrecorded, and unknown, the town had suffered some material losses, and its remaining inhabitants had to deplore its former comparative prosperity. At this period there were only twelve barks, or vessels, with seventy-five men, belonging to this port,

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and

\* Itinerary, Vol. VII, fo. 56.

and the whole estimated at 223 tons burthen\*. By going further back, we find an order from Edward the Third, commanding this sea-port town to "provide all its vessels, in a sufficient manner, with men, arms, and stores," to assist in a foreign expedition: and "about the same time," says Macpherson, "the community of Liverpool were repeatedly empowered to levy duties for paving their streets†." Wanting satisfactory records to explain the causes of these apparent fluctuations in the early history of the place, it would be futile to enter into a conjectural dissertation on the subject. Suffice it to observe, that in consequence of the extended increase of the town, it was found necessary, in the reign of king William the Third, to obtain an act of parliament for making Liverpool a distinct and separate parish from that of Walton on the hill. From this period we shall find the town gradually and rapidly advance in population, buildings, commerce, and riches. This is amply illustrated by the titles and objects of the several public and private acts of parliaments that have been obtained at different periods; and the number of charters that have been granted by the following monarchs, is a further evidence of the increasing consequence of the town. Most of these charters are still preserved among the Archives of the corporation:—I. *Henry the Second*; in which he is styled Duke of Aquitain, and Earl of Anjou: and it is known that King John afterwards lost those possessions.—II. *John*.—III. *Henry the Third*.—IV. *Edward the Third*.—V. *Richard the Second*; an ancient copy of this charter was lately preserved at Speke-Hall.—VI. *Henry the Fourth*.—VII. *Henry the Fifth*; 2 charters.—VIII. *Philip and Mary*

\* On the opposite banks of the Mersey, in Cheshire, was a small sea-port called Wellasey, which, at this time, possessed three larks, of sixty tons burthen, and manned with fourteen seamen.

† "Annals of Commerce," Vol. I. p. 514, 516. [Rot. pet. second of Edward the Third; prim. seventh of Edward the Third, m. 27; prim. tenth of Edward the Third, m. 43.]



*Mary.—IX. Charles the First.—X. Charles the Second.—XI. James the Second.—XII. William the Third.—XIII. George the Second.\**

#### ACTS OF PARLIAMENT.

Tenth and eleventh of William the Third, c. 36.—*A private Act*

To enable the town of Liverpool to build a CHURCH, (St. Peter's), and endow the same; and for making the said town and liberties, a PARISH of itself, distinct from Walton. This act empowers the Corporation "to build a house for the rector, and to raise 400*l.* by assessment, on the inhabitants, for that purpose. That two rectors should be appointed, one for the new church, the other for the parochial chapel, who should enjoy the same ecclesiastic benefits as the rector and vicar of Walton had before enjoyed; that all parish dues, &c. should be equally divided between the two rectors. That the patronage and presentation to the rectory should be vested in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, for the time being; and should any dispute arise, the decision to be referred to the Bishop of Chester.—&c.

Eighth of Anne, c. 12. *A public Act*

For making a convenient DOCK, or bason, at Liverpool, for the security of all ships trading to and from the said port.

Eighth of Anne, c. 25. *A private Act*

To enable the Corporation to make a grant to Sir Oleave Moore, Bart. for liberty to bring FRESH WATER into the said town.

First of George the First, c. 21. *A private Act*

For building and endowing a CHURCH upon the site of the castle of Liverpool, held by lease from the Duchy of Lancaster, and for explaining a former act for the building another church there.

Third

\* By this Charter, which was confirmed by George the Second, it was ordained, that in order to preserve the peace, &c. there should be the following officers, &c.—Forty-one good and discreet persons, who shall be called the Common Council of Liverpool, out of which should be yearly chosen a Mayor, Recorder, and two Bailiffs. "This is the existing corporation," says Wallace, "whose by-laws and authorities are binding to the present inhabitants."

Third of George the First, c. 1. *A private Act*

For enlarging the time granted by an act, passed in the eighth year of the reign of her late Majesty Queen Anne, intituled, "An act for making a convenient dock, or bason, at Liverpool, for the security of all ships trading to and from the said port of Liverpool."

Seventh of George the First, c. 15. *A public Act*

For making the rivers Mersey and Irwell NAVIGABLE from Liverpool to Manchester.

Twelfth of George the First, c. 21. *A public Act*

For repairing and enlarging the ROAD from Liverpool to Prescot, and other roads therein mentioned.

Eleventh of George the Second, c. 52. *A private Act*

For enlarging the time granted by an act, passed in the third year of the reign of his late Majesty King George, enlarging the time granted by an act passed in the eighth year of the reign of her late Majesty Queen Anne, for making a convenient dock, or bason, at Liverpool, for the security of all ships trading to and from the said port of Liverpool; and for enlarging the same by making an additional dock, and building a pier in the open harbour there; and for enlightening the said dock.

Nineteenth of George the Second, c. 19. *A public Act*

For enlarging the term and powers granted by an act, passed in the twelfth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the First, for repairing and enlarging the road from Liverpool to Prescot, and other roads therein mentioned; and for amending the road leading from Prescot to the chapel of St. Helen, in the said county.

Twenty-first of George the Second, c. 24. *A public Act*

For building a CHURCH in the town of Liverpool, and for enlightening and cleansing the streets of the said town, and for keeping and maintaining a nightly watch there.

Twenty-fifth of George the Second, c. 43. *A public Act*

For the more easy and speedy recovery of SMALL DEBTS in the town and port of Liverpool, and liberties thereof.

In this year, it appears that the corporation petitioned the king for an act, to "grant an additional number of Justices of the Peace, and to empower the recorder to make a deputy, and for granting the sca-shore to the corporation

tion in *express words*." In this petition is recited the various charters that had been previously obtained.

Twenty-sixth of George the Second, c. 65. *A public Act*

For enlarging the term and power granted by two acts of parliament, one passed in the twelfth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the First; and the other passed in the nineteenth year of his present majesty, for repairing the ROAD from Liverpool to Prescot, and other roads therein mentioned; and also for repairing the road from Prescot, through Whiston, Rainhill, Bold, and Sankey, to the town of Warrington, and also the road from St. Helen to Ashton.

Second of George the Third, c. 68. *A public Act*

For building *two new* CHURCHES, and providing burial places within the town of Liverpool; and for the better preserving the *parcements* of the streets in the said town; and for ascertaining the *fares* and prices to be paid *carters, carmen, hackney coachmen, and chairmen*, and for regulating their behaviour within the said town.

Second of George the Third, c. 36. *A public Act*

For enlarging the term and powers granted by an act, passed in the eleventh year of the reign of his late majesty; for continuing several acts relating to the HARBOUR of Liverpool, and for enlarging the said harbour, by making an additional dock, and building a pier in the open harbour there, and for enlightening the said dock, and for making *another dock*, with *proper piers*, in the said harbour, and for erecting *light-houses*, and other proper lights in or near the port of Liverpool.

Such are the principal Charters and Acts that have been successively obtained in behalf of this town, and on which its immunities, privileges, and civil proceedings are founded. Yet it must surprise many to be told that some ambiguity and difficulty still exists respecting the formation of the corporate body. A dispute has arisen, and generated two parties, or corporations, the old and the new; the first consisting of the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses; and the latter of the mayor, bailiffs, and common-council. In order to settle this dispute, the old corporation resolved to try the issue of their claim at the Lancaster assizes, in 1791: and after various learned and legal arguments were advanced



vanced on both sides, it was decided in favor of the old corporation. This decision was contested by the new corporation, who obtained a new trial in the Court of King's Bench before Lord Kenyon, when it was decided that the mayor, bailiffs, and common council constituted the proper corporation. This disagreement of the two verdicts has determined neither, and the point at issue is still a theme of dispute\*.

The present prosperity of Liverpool has evidently arisen from a combination of causes; and among these may be chiefly noticed its natural situation, its free water carriage with the numerous manufacturing towns, and mines of the county, and the enlightened policy of its civil government. Seated on the eastern bank of the estuary of the Mersey, which may be called the key of its commerce, and source of its wealth, it possessed a ready and easy communication with St. George's channel, and thence to the Atlantic ocean. Ships, when the wind is fair, at about east-south-east, will sail from the docks to the main Irish sea, in a few hours. The river gradually expands, between the town and the sea. From the fort, to Seacombe ferry opposite, it is about 1300 yards across. At spring tides the water sometimes rises thirty feet; but at dead neap, only thirteen feet.

At what time *Commerce* fixed on the banks of the Mersey, as one of her principal seats in Britain, is a subject, though, perhaps, of no high antiquity, buried in profound oblivion. Leland observes that this port was well frequented by Irish merchants in his time; and its first importance doubtless arose from the low ratio of its import duties. From the flatness of the shore, and other circumstances, the shipping must formerly have been subject to great inconveniencies; for though vessels rode safely in the offing, they were obliged to ride there as in a road, rather than an harbour. In the Reign of Elizabeth it appears that a mole

\* The whole of the proceedings, on the above trials, with the speeches and opinions of Council, have been published.—See List of Books at the end.

mole was formed to lay up the vessels in the winter; and a quay was made for the advantageous shipping and unshipping their cargoes. To remedy these evils, an act of parliament was obtained in the eighth of Queen Anne, for the formation of a wet dock, now called "*the Old Dock.*" From the increase of trade, this was soon found insufficient, and another act was obtained, tenth of George the Second, for the enlargement of it; the formation of another, called "*Salt-House Dock,*" and rendering the harbour more secure, by erecting a pier. A few years more shewed the inadequacy of these improvements, and a third act was obtained, second of George the Third, to enlarge the powers of both the former. By this, a third dock, called the "*St. George's Dock,*" was formed, and piers to secure the outer harbour; and two light-houses were built.

Two other docks have since been made, and are called "*the King's Dock*" and "*the Queen's Dock.*" These are situated at the north west end of the town, and are accommodated with a dry-bason, and two graving-docks. As the Liverpool docks were the first reservoirs and harbours, for the accommodation of merchandise, ever constructed in this country, and as they are frequently referred to in comparison with those of London, it will be necessary to detail some further particulars. These docks may be described as consisting of three sorts: the *wet-docks*, which usually receive such ships as are on foreign service, and consequently have large and heavy cargoes to discharge; the *dry-docks*, appropriated to receive the vessels that are employed coast-ways; and the *graving-docks*, which by flood-gates are calculated to admit and exclude the water at pleasure, for the purpose of caulking, and performing other repairs to the shipping. The following are the dimensions of the five docks already completed.

|                 | yds. | yds.   | ft.       | in.  | ft.      | in.        |
|-----------------|------|--------|-----------|------|----------|------------|
| Old Dock . . .  | 198  | by 85  | Its gates | 33 0 | wide, by | 25 3 deep. |
| Salthouse Dock  | 213  | by 102 | —         | 34 0 | —        | 25 0 —     |
| George's Dock   | 246  | by 100 | —         | 38 3 | —        | 26 2 —     |
| King's Dock . . | 272  | by 95  | —         | 42 0 | —        | 26 0 —     |
| Queen's Dock    | 280  | by 120 | —         | 42 0 | —        | 27 0 —     |

Such are the sizes of the Liverpool docks, which, when compared with those of London, will appear relatively small.

The principal bason of the WEST-INDIA DOCK, which was opened August 30th, 1802, measures 2600 feet, by 510, and 29 deep. Contiguous to this is another bason, or dock, of the same length and depth, by about 400 feet wide. The first, of about thirty acres, will contain between two hundred, and three hundred sail of West-Indiamen, and is appropriated for unlading the vessels. The latter, for loading outwards, contains about twenty-four acres. These are accommodated with immense warehouses, basons at each end, and surrounded with a high wall, and deep ditch.

The LONDON DOCK for unlading is 1262 feet long, by 699 feet wide, and contains 20 acres.

The EAST INDIA DOCK, for unlading, is 1410 feet long, by 560 feet wide, and contains  $18\frac{1}{2}$  acres; and for loading, is 780 feet long, by 520 feet wide, and contains  $9\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

These immense works have been nearly completed since the commencement of the year 1800, and thus demonstratively prove to the astonished country, and to the world, the unlimited powers of English energy, skill, and riches, when properly stimulated and rightly directed.

Of the Liverpool Docks, it may be necessary to be more circumstantial. The uncertainty of the tides, and flatness of the shore at this port, first suggested the necessity of some artificial accommodation for the merchant's vessels, and, as early as 1561, a scheme was planned for constructing a sort of dock, as a shelter from storms, &c.; but it was not till 1710, that an act was obtained to construct a regular dock. Since that time the docks have



have increased in number, with the increase and population of the town, and are now augmented to thirteen \* :—Five wet docks, five graving docks, and three dry docks, (independent of the duke of Bridgewater's dock) ; occupying a space of about three miles in circumference ; the whole constructed, formed, and built upon the bed of the river. It is to be observed that George's, the Old, and Salthouse docks, communicate ; so that ships can pass from one to the other, and into the graving docks, without going into the river, where their being unmanned or unrigged, might expose them to injury from the wind and tide. The King and Queen's docks communicate together in the same manner, and with their own graving docks. There are perfect communications under ground between all the wet docks, by large tunnels, for the purpose of one dock cleaning or washing another ; so that when a dock is to be cleaned, which is generally done once a year, it is left dry at low water, by keeping the gates unclosed ; the sluices are opened into it by different directions, and a great number of men enter, who, with spades, shovel the mud into the currents made by the sluices, till the dock becomes sufficiently cleared, which is usually done in ten or fourteen days. The dry docks are cleared from mud in the same manner, by sluices opened from their respective wet docks. This ready and effectual mode of cleaning the docks by sluices, is rather of late invention and adoption ; as it was originally done by means of flat-bottomed boats, a method tedious and imperfect. Each wet dock has a dock-master, with an annual salary of 105*l.* whose office is to regulate the internal decorum of the dock, by allotting the positions of the ships in their loading and unloading ; to direct the management of the flood gates, and to attend to the docking and undocking of the ships at the times of the tide ; as, without such a regulator, who is obliged to act with impartiality, according to existing circumstances, confusion and consequent injury would ensue. The docks have

\* An act of parliament has been obtained for constructing two more wet docks.

have watch, scavengers, and lamps, distinct from those of the town. Fires are not suffered; and even candles are not permitted to be lighted on board the ships, except secured in lanthorns; nor tobacco smoked, under a penalty of 40s.; nor any combustible matters left on the decks, or on the adjoining quays, in the night, under a fine of 10l. By these precautions, strictly attended to, an accident from fire (so much to be dreaded) has only happened once; yet scarcely a day passes without fines being incurred for these practices. The penalty for having gunpowder in the docks is 40s. Large ships, when loaded, cannot pass the dock gates at neap-tides, for want of sufficient depth of water there; so that, when a ship of that description, in the dock, is ready for sea during the spring tides, and the wind unfair, it is conveyed into the river, and there remains at anchor, to take the advantage of a favourable wind. If a large ship arrives from sea during neap tides, it continues in the same situation till the next spring tide rise high enough to float it into the dock.

The following table exhibits the progressive increase of the Dock Duties, which are levied upon ships, according to a certain rate per ton. It shows the number of ships that have been assessed in each year, with the aggregate sum paid to the Dock companies.

| Years. | Ships. | l.   | s. | d. | Years. | Ships. | l.    | s. | d. |
|--------|--------|------|----|----|--------|--------|-------|----|----|
| 1760   | 1245   | 2330 | 6  | 7  | 1780   | 2261   | 3528  | 7  | 9  |
| 1765   | 1930   | 3455 | 8  | 4  | 1785   | 3429   | 8411  | 5  | 3  |
| 1770   | 2073   | 4142 | 17 | 2  | 1790   | 4223   | 10037 | 6  | 2½ |
| 1775   | 2291   | 5384 | 4  | 9  | 1795   | 3948   | 9368  | 16 | 4  |

| Years. | Ships. | Tonnage. | l.     | s. | d. |
|--------|--------|----------|--------|----|----|
| 1800   | 4746   | 450,060  | 23,379 | 13 | 6½ |
| 1801   | 5060   | 489,719  | 28,365 | 8  | 2  |
| 1802   | 4781   | 510,691  | 28,192 | 9  | 10 |
| 1803   | 4791   | 494,521  | 28,027 | 13 | 7  |
| 1804   | 4291   | 448,761  | 26,157 | 0  | 11 |
| 1805   | 4618   | 463,482  | 33,364 | 13 | 1  |

In 1724, the dock duty amounted to only 810l. 11s. 6d.

The

The aggregate current expenditure on account of the docks, (which we may suppose has increased in a similar proportion to the duties received), appears to have amounted, in the year 1805, to 27,880*l.* in which year, by the preceding statement, the duties received were 33,364*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* \*.

The view of the duties, as exhibited in the foregoing table, clearly shows the amazing increase of the annual receipts; yet, although this revenue appears so great, the Dock Proprietors are still considerably in arrears: for by a statement in the small volume already referred to, it appears, that "the original and present constructions of the docks and piers have incurred a debt of 106,736*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* by money borrowed upon them under different Acts of Parliament.

Connected with these docks are wide and commodious quays, with large warehouses, calculated to store up all such goods as are not immediately delivered to the retail dealers, &c.

Besides the five docks already mentioned, here is a smaller one, called the Duke of BRIDGEWATER'S DOCK, which is devoted to the flats and barges, belonging to the canals that communicate to Runcorn, Manchester, and the manufacturing towns in this part of the country.

The direction and government of the docks are vested in the Corporation, as trustees; whose accounts are annually examined and settled by seven commissioners, who are appointed for that purpose.

The following table displays the quantity and qualities of various articles of merchandize, that were imported into the town, for five successive years.

\* See Picture of Liverpool, 1805.



## Imports of Produce into the Port of Liverpool in the following Years.

| Years. | BRITISH PLANTATION SUGAR. |       |      |        | COFFEE. |       |      | COCOA. |     | GINGER. |        | PIMENTO. |       | RUM. |       |
|--------|---------------------------|-------|------|--------|---------|-------|------|--------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-------|------|-------|
|        | Hbds.                     | Tons. | Bls. | Casks. | Cluts.  | Tcs.  | Bls. | Bags.  | Ck. | Bags.   | Casks. | Cks.     | Bags. | Pun. | Hbds. |
| 1802   | 38043                     | 4701  | 2357 | 60     | 9869    | 7797  | 1220 | 9869   | 146 | 1148    | 17     | 24       | 1573  | 7993 | 135   |
| 1803   | 35781                     | 8973  | 3871 | 380    | 8734    | 10730 | 198  | 1284   | 239 | 963     | 20     | 89       | 1289  | 7053 | 60    |
| 1804   | 31149                     | 13185 | 1713 | 16058  | 10125   | 10615 | 5669 | 16005  | 166 | 1352    | 418    | 1053     | 7048  | 4420 | 65    |
| 1805   | 40322                     | 3572  | 1765 | 866    | 7529    | 11840 | 1660 | 1276   | 840 | 2720    | 122    | 2029     | 92    | 6634 | 194   |
| 1806   | 43573                     | 5618  | 2176 | 1066   | 3791    | 12721 | 2335 | 22867  | 160 | 1603    | 196    | 3630     | 3997  | 6496 | 176   |

CONTINUED.

| Years. | LOG-<br>WOOD. |       | FUSTIC. |       | NICARA<br>WOOD. |       | MAHOGANY. |         | HYDES. |       | ELEPHANTS'<br>TEETH. |       | AMERICAN<br>ASHES. |        | TOBACCO. |       | RICE. |        | INDIGO. |       | TAR. |      | TURPEN-<br>TINE. |      | PALM<br>OIL. |  |
|--------|---------------|-------|---------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------|---------|--------|-------|----------------------|-------|--------------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|--------|---------|-------|------|------|------------------|------|--------------|--|
|        | Tons.         | Hbds. | Tons.   | Hbds. | Tons.           | Hbds. | Logs.     | Planks. | Tons.  | Hbds. | Tons.                | Hbds. | Bls.               | Casks. | Tcs.     | Hbds. | Tcs.  | Cases. | Bls.    | Bls.  | Bls. | Bls. | Bls.             | Bls. | Bls.         |  |
| 1802   | 1488          | 1387  | 258     | 3073  | 600             | 48257 | 11288     | 8093    | 6082   | 6082  | 11288                | 8093  | 6082               | 6082   | 2396     | 543   | 2396  | 543    | 14709   | 28398 | 530  | 530  | 530              | 530  | 530          |  |
| 1803   | 1786          | 1298  | 479     | 1609  | 79              | 60897 | 14308     | 7053    | 5023   | 5023  | 14308                | 7053  | 5023               | 5023   | 3750     | 430   | 3750  | 430    | 14986   | 30497 | 639  | 639  | 639              | 639  | 639          |  |
| 1804   | 4421          | 2368  | 689     | 6236  | 346             |       | 6444      | 10147   | 6082   | 6082  | 6444                 | 10147 | 10147              | 10147  | 10476    | 506   | 10476 | 506    | 21300   | 24353 |      |      |                  |      |              |  |
| 1805   | 2704          | 2704  | 1085    | 5285  | 347             |       | 5708      | 8010    | 6838   | 6838  | 5708                 | 8010  | 8010               | 8010   | 6715     | 889   | 6715  | 889    | 47072   | 57622 |      |      |                  |      |              |  |
| 1806   | 2500          | 1150  | 370     | 3899  | 213             |       | 7628      | 11594   | 8302   | 8302  | 7628                 | 11594 | 11594              | 11594  | 15230    | 1492  | 15230 | 1492   | 26734   | 30575 |      |      |                  |      |              |  |

## Cotton imported into Liverpool.

| Years. | Bags.   | Increase<br>Bags. | Years. | Bags.  | Increase<br>Bags. |
|--------|---------|-------------------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| 1770   | 6043    |                   | 1804   | 146389 | 60839             |
| 1788   | 23775   | 17732             | 1805   | 163220 | 14831             |
| 1800   | 87550 * | 63775             | 1806   | 172638 | 9418              |

Coals brought to Liverpool by the Leeds and Liverpool canal.

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| In 1781..... | 31,000 tons. |
| 1784.....    | 70,000 —     |
| 1787.....    | 98,000 —     |
| 1790.....    | 137,790 —    |

Coals exported in 1791.—To Foreign parts, 57,000 tons.  
—Coastways, 40,000.—Total 97,000 tons; leaving 41,000 tons  
used in Liverpool, besides the quantities brought down the Sankey-  
canal, and carted from the collieries.

A list of the number of British and Foreign Ships that have en-  
tered inwards, and cleared outwards, at the port of Liverpool,  
from October 10th, 1801, to October 10th, 1802.

|                                               |      |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|
| British ships entered inwards in 1801,....    | 1331 |
| ..... 1802,....                               | 1783 |
| Foreign ships entered inwards in 1801,....    | 641  |
| ..... 1802,....                               | 425  |
| British ships clearing outwards for 1801,.... | 1694 |
| ..... 1802,....                               | 2062 |
| Foreign ships clearing out in 1801,....       | 705  |
| ..... 1802,....                               | 461  |

If the increased tonnage of the ships, and the increased number  
of men employed in them, be considered, the result, as to the to-  
tal increase and decrease, respectively, of the British and Foreign  
ships, would be found still more considerable. In 1801, the  
amount of the tonnage was 22,696; do. for 1802, 25,527.

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On

\* The quantity of cotton imported into London in 1800 was 86,450 bags.

On the 20th of June, 1807, there were in the Liverpool docks 262 sail of *American vessels*.

The rapid increase of the American commerce, during the present devastating and calamitous war, is calculated to injure that of Great Britain. For the former has every port open to its merchants; and among other effects that must result from this free trade, it is very likely that it will undermine the monopoly of the East Indian traffic. This subject is entitled to serious consideration.

Long have the two ports of Bristol and Liverpool been acknowledged rivals. The latter has, at length, obtained the ascendancy over the emporium of the west. Though the merchants of each are desirous of being competitors, yet the places are so situated, as naturally to divide the trade, upon very remarkable equalities. Each presents a different theatre for commerce to act upon. They possess no legitimate cause of interference; each has room to extend its trade, both abroad and at home, without clashing with the others interest. Bristol lies open to the Irish trade, as well as Liverpool: but while the former trades chiefly to the south and south-west ports, from Dublin to Galloway; the latter must have the trade of the east and northern shores, from Dublin to Londonderry. The one has all the south of England; the other all the north, to correspond with. Bristol has the south-west counties, extending northward to Shrewsbury; Liverpool the north, and midland counties, extending southward to Birmingham. Nature has opened a communication, by the river Severn, between Bristol and the counties of Monmouth, Gloucester, Hereford, Worcester, and Salop; yet Liverpool has obtained many advantages by the rivers Mersey, Weaver, &c. and the various canals which now open a communication for her, not only into the heart of the country, but to the eastern shores, the Tyne and the Humber. Wales seems equally divided between them: Bristol commanding the harbours down to Milford, and its centre by the rivers Wye and Lug; and Liverpool does the same to the north, by the Dee, Conway, and Straights of Menai.

Thus



Thus possessed naturally of equally eligible situations, both for foreign and domestic trade, Liverpool, though she started late, has not only overtaken, but surpassed her rival in both. By a comparison of the number of ships which sailed from and to those respective ports, on an average of five years, 1759 to 1763 inclusive, the shipping of Liverpool far exceeded that of Bristol; while the customs of Bristol exceeded those of Liverpool. This seeming paradox is solved, by adverting to the nature of the articles and differences of duty imported into the two ports. From that period, and especially since 1770, in every point Liverpool has been surpassing Bristol. This precedency has been attributed to two causes, the ardent pursuit of the African Trade by the one, and the humane dereliction of it in the other; and the superior advantages Liverpool has long enjoyed, by means of her floating docks. How far the first cause has operated, the effect of an act lately passed the Legislative Assembly, will soon discover; and the extent of the latter will be decided by the superior competition attempting in the immense work now executing, for damming a long reach of the river Avon, to keep the ships afloat in the harbour of Bristol. Leaving this for time to discover, may not a more energetically operative cause be found in the genius of the place, and the liberal spirit which pervades it? Liberality of sentiment, with generosity in practice, is peculiarly favourable to commerce. It is the genial sun, under which she flourishes, and without whose benign influence, she dwindles and dies. Unanimity begets mutual confidence, and confidence tends to increase power, and power soon opens various avenues to wealth and affluence.

In the history of this port, the *African slave trade* constitutes a popular, but very unpleasant, feature; and though the benevolent mind rejoices at a decision of the British House of Commons in 1807, when this inhuman traffic was "abolished," yet it must occasionally reflect on the cruelty, injustice, and ignominy of that trade and commerce, which consisted in buying and selling men and women; or what is much worse, in plundering one country of its human inhabitants to consign them to perpetual slavery in

another. It is common to attach *particular* reproach to this town for engaging so largely in this business, but the discredit more particularly belongs to the legislative councils, for tolerating and encouraging it. To correct long nurtured evils, and to annihilate a profitable branch of trade in an actively commercial country, require much patriotic courage and patriotic perseverance. It is, therefore, with glowing pleasure that we hail the ascendancy of reason and justice over obstinate folly and mercenary cupidity; for the noble maxim of *Papinian* is then nobly exemplified, "To suppress wrong is *wise*, to do right is *politic*." "Much illiberal and ungenerous reflection," says the editor of the *Picture of Liverpool*, "has indiscriminately been cast upon the inhabitants of Liverpool, on account of this trade. It is too commonly supposed that it has the unqualified sanction of all who take up their residence in this town, and it has been hence emphatically called the "the metropolis of slavery;" yet nothing can be more unfounded, not to say illiberal, than such an imputation. The trade is limited to a very few of the merchants of Liverpool, chiefly to three or four houses; and many ships are fitted out in that trade from this port, belonging to owners and merchants who reside in different parts of the kingdom, but who give the preference to Liverpool, solely on account of the superior accommodations it possesses. The friends of the hapless Africans, and many such are to be found even here, have not been passive and unconcerned in the struggle which has been raised for putting a stop to the trade. Their talents have been consecrated to the service. They have remonstrated in public and in private, through the medium of the pulpit and the press. They have called to their aid the powers of argument, the charms of poetry, and the graces of oratory; in doing which they have acquitted themselves of what they conceived to be an imperious duty to their own consciences, their country, and their God."

In the year 1709, Liverpool began to have a share of the slave trade, and has long been the principal English port in that branch of traffic. The following is a statement of the number of vessels, and

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Engraved by W. B. Woodhouse from a Drawing by J. H. P. Thompson  
View of the Government of England from the West

and freightage, with a view of the progressive augmentation of the trade, down to the commencement of the present war:

| Years. | Vessels. | Tons.  | Years. | Vessels. | Tons.  |
|--------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
| 1709   | 1        | 30     | 1775   | 81       | 9,200  |
| 1730   | 15       | 1,111  | 1776   | 57       | 7,078  |
| 1737   | 33       | 2,756  | 1777   | 31       | 4,060  |
| 1753   | 72       | 7,547  | 1778   | 26       | 3,651  |
| 1755   | 41       | 4,052  | 1779   | 11       | 1,205  |
| 1760   | 74       | 8,178  | 1780   | 32       | 4,275  |
| 1761   | 69       | 7,309  | 1781   | 43       | 5,720  |
| 1762   | 61       | 6,752  | 1782   | 47       | 6,209  |
| 1763   | 65       | 6,650  | 1783   | 85       | 12,294 |
| 1764   | 74       | 7,978  | 1784   | 67       | 9,568  |
| 1765   | 83       | 9,382  | 1785   | 79       | 10,982 |
| 1766   | 65       | 6,650  | 1786   | 92       | 13,971 |
| 1767   | 83       | 8,345  | 1787   | 81       | 14,012 |
| 1768   | 81       | 8,302  | 1788   | 73       | 13,394 |
| 1769   | 90       | 9,852  | 1789   | 66       | 11,564 |
| 1770   | 96       | 9,818  | 1790   | 91       | 17,917 |
| 1771   | 105      | 10,929 | 1791   | 102      | 19,610 |
| 1772   | 100      | 10,150 | 1792   | 132      | 22,402 |
| 1773   | 105      | 11,056 | 1793   | 52       | 10,544 |
| 1774   | 92       | 9,859  |        |          |        |

The *public structures*, connected with the trade and commerce of the town, are the Exchange-buildings, Town-Hall and Mansion-House, Custom-House, Corn-Exchange, Tobacco-Warehouse, and other warehouses. Of these, that called the LIVERPOOL EXCHANGE is the most spacious in plan, and ornamental in architectural elevation. It has been erected by a subscription of £.80,000, raised from 800 transferable shares of £.100 each\*. The buildings occupy three sides of a quadrangle, having

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the

\* The present Royal Exchange of London, according to Northouck's statement, cost 80,000*l*. Its area is 144 feet by 117 feet.

the north front of the Town-Hall, for the fourth side, and together include an area of 194 feet by 180. The architecture was designed to harmonize and correspond with the north elevation of the Town-hall, and thus constitute an uniform quadrangle. The new building consists of a rusticated basement, with a piazza extending round the whole, and opening to the area by a series of rustic arches, between strong piers. Above this are two stories, ornamented with Corinthian pilasters, and surmounted with an enriched bold cornice and parapet. In the centre of the north side, resting on the basement, is a grand recessed portico, with eight handsome Corinthian columns \*. This building is intended to accommodate the merchants, brokers, underwriters, and others of the town, who are devoted to mercantile pursuits. In the east wing is a coffee-room, ninety-four feet by fifty-two, supported on large columns. Above this is another spacious room, seventy-two feet by thirty-six, intended to be appropriated to the underwriters, &c. on the principle of that of Lloyd's in London. This magnificent and commodious range of buildings is an honourable memorial of the commercial spirit and noble views of the Liverpool merchants; and, whilst it affords them comfortable accommodations, it will be a great ornament to the town. At the time this account is penning, a committee is deliberating on the choice of a group of statuary, to adorn and dignify the centre of the area. It is intended to have a subject in commemoration of the heroic bravery and skill of Lord Nelson: and as such a subject, in the fine arts, will be either appropriate and praise-worthy, by its tasteful design and skilful execution, or unpleasant and reprehensible, by the want of these essentials, it is hoped that the committee will manifest a critical and liberal discrimination in choosing

\* The annexed print represents the west wing, and principal front of this building, which has been erected by John Foster, Esq. (the Corporation Architect, Engineer, and Dock-Master,) from the designs of James Wyatt, Esq. To the former gentleman I feel gratefully indebted, for procuring the drawings of this building and the Town-Hall; and to the Corporation for their liberality, in presenting the plates to this work.







Engraved by Wm. Richardson from a drawing by J. C. Smith.

See the Account of England & Wales, Vol. 1.

ing from the models submitted to their discretion and judgment\*.

THE TOWN-HALL, formerly called the Exchange, is a large regular pile of building, which was erected about the year 1750, from designs by Wood, of Bath; and its decorations strongly remind us of the *showy* buildings of that city. The ground-floor was intended for an exchange, and calculated to accommodate the merchants with Insurance Offices, &c. A considerable addition was made to this building some years back, and great progress was made in extending the offices; when the whole of the interior was destroyed by fire, in the year 1795. In consequence of this accident, the corporation resolved to rebuild it on a more extended and improved plan, and to appropriate the whole to judicial and other offices, for the police of the town, for a mansion for the mayor, a suite of public assembly-rooms, and for all the offices devoted to the business of the corporation†. The ground story, on the south side, consists of a handsome entrance-hall, leading to a flight of stairs, a committee room, and a private room for the mayor; on the east side, are a vestibule, rooms for the magistrates and juries, and the town-clerk's offices; on the north side an entrance-hall, leading to the town-hall, or general sessions-room, to the rotation office, &c. On the principal floor is a grand suite of rooms, consisting of a saloon, thirty feet by twenty-six—a drawing-room, thirty-three feet by twenty-six—a ball-room, ninety feet by forty-two—a second ball-room, sixty-six by thirty feet—a card-room, thirty-two feet by twenty-six, &c. The summit of this building is terminated by a dome, which is of modern construction, and ornamented with several columns. Round the frieze, and in the pediment of the southern

\* The design and description of one of these models, by G. Bullock, display peculiar novelty and originality; and what constitutes its superior excellence, is the strict adherence to *historical propriety* and *rational consistency* in all its parts. It is truly *English Art*, employed to dignify English valour. According to the periodical publications, this design has been adopted.

† In the annexed *Print*, two fronts of this building are displayed.



southern front, is a profusion of sculptured decoration, but executed in such a bad style, that it more disfigures than ornaments the building.

The first foundation stone of a **NEW CORN EXCHANGE**, in Brunswick-street, was laid on the 24th of April, 1807. This building is intended for a general resort of the corn-merchants, on the plan of the Exchange in Mark-lane, London; and, considering that Liverpool is the seat of the second corn-market in the kingdom, it is somewhat surprising that an establishment of this kind has not been instituted before. It will be a handsome structure, of plain Grecian architecture, with a stone front to Brunswick-street. Like the New Exchange buildings, it is erected by subscription; a fund of 10,000*l.* having been raised, by shares of 100*l.* each.

The *Custom-House*, situated on the south side of the Old Dock, has nothing peculiar to attract attention: and the *Tobacco Warehouse*, with various other commercial warehouses, are devoted to the stowage of various articles imported into this town.

*Buildings appropriated to Religion*, are numerous and various in this large and busy place of traffic; but I shall restrict my remarks to those belonging to the protestant doctrines, and of these I must necessarily be concise.

The most ancient, called **St. NICHOLAS**, or the **OLD CHURCH**, is a very low structure, having windows with pointed arches, and a small tower, crowned by a spire. Though called the Old Church, it does not excite curiosity; and its interior exhibits gloom, without grandeur. Near it formerly stood a statue of St. Nicholas, a tutelary deity of the maritime part of the place, to which sea-faring people usually made a peace-offering, previous to their embarking; and another, as a wave-offering, on their return, for the successful issue of the voyage.

**St. PETER'S CHURCH**, built in 1704, is a plain structure, having a quadrangular tower, the upper story of which is octangular, terminated by eight pinnacles, in the form of candlesticks; with a gilt fane, shaped so as to resemble flame.

**St. GEORGE'S CHURCH**, which was finished in 1744, is more systematically

systematically built, and partakes of a classical style. The body is formed by a doric range, bearing an attic entablature; with a parapet ornamented with vases. The windows for affording light, both to the aisles and galleries, are disproportionably large. On the south side is a wide handsome terrace, raised on six rustic arches. Though the eye may be reconciled to this by the situation of the ground, yet the mind is disgusted at its appropriation; for, like the outer court of the temple, in the degenerate days of the Jewish Church, this place is devoted to those who *buy* and *sell*. At the extremity of this terrace are two wings, consisting of octangular buildings; one of which is appropriated to the clerk of the market, and the other to a cell for confining delinquents!! The steeple consists of five tiers, or portions, ornamented with pilasters of the Doric, Ionic, Corinthian, and Composite orders; and above the tower rises a lofty, tapering, octangular spire.

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, built in 1750, is better proportioned, but whimsical in its appearance. The body consists of a rustic base, having two tiers of windows; the upper calculated for a drawing-room, and the lower for a prison: nor is the large semi-circular Venetian window, at the east end, in a happier style. The double Ionic pilasters attached to the sides, as they appear to have nothing to support, add little to its decoration. The tower is lofty, terminating in a well-proportioned spire, nearly half the height from the base: but its immediate and appropriate support consists of four couplets of Corinthian columns, on which, as though ashamed of their station, stare four crocket pinnacles, combined with vases. How far it might have been the design of the architect to hide the want of affinity between the dissimilar parts, in a Gothico-Grecian building, I cannot pretend to determine; the transition is less abrupt, though equally absurd. Nor can that motley style of architecture, observable here, and in other large places, so destructive of all genuine taste, be sufficiently reprobated. To such incongruous designs, divested of all beauty, convenience, and harmony of parts, every lover of the arts must be decidedly hostile. For though a certain latitude, for the display of genius and science, may be, and ought to be, allowed;

yet

yet not so far as to group the most palpable incongruities. The rule is applicable here—

“Denique sit quod vis simplex duntaxat & unum.”

*Horace.*

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, which was erected at the public expense, and consecrated in 1769, is a miniature imitation of the great cathedral of London. On the west side a grand Ionic portico forms a suitable vestibule to the building, which is also of the Ionic order throughout. The base is rustic, the walls plain, terminated by a balustrade decorated, but not croudedly so, with plain neat vases. The dome is crowned with a lantern, and its finial a ball bearing a cross. Though the exterior of this building loses all appearance of grandeur, or beauty, to the eye that has dwelt on the designs of St. Peter's at Rome, and St. Paul's at London, yet it assumes some importance and elegance when compared to the other modern churches of the town, or the generality of those sacred edifices that have been erected since the reign of Henry the Eighth. Its interior is more imposing than the exterior, from the disposition and character of the pillars that support the dome. Like most buildings with domes, or of circular arrangement, this is very unfavourable for the communication of sound: and the congregation is said to be very limited from this circumstance\*.

ST. ANN'S Church was built by two proprietors, in 1770; and is remarkable for having its galleries supported by slender cast-iron pillars, which were the first employed for this purpose. The church is, very unusually, placed in a north and south direction.

ST. JOHN'S Church was erected at the public expense, and was finished in 1784. The lower part of this, like that of St. Paul's, is appropriated to the public.

TRINITY CHURCH, built by private proprietors, and consecrated in 1792, is commodious, and peculiarly neat.

CHRIST'S

\* See a small view of this building in the Plan of the Town, published in “The British Atlas.”



CHRIST'S CHURCH is an handsome and spacious building, with two rows of galleries, and an Organ, very peculiarly constructed by Mr. Collins, of this town. This instrument is divided into two parts, at 14 feet asunder, and the organist is placed in the centre, with his face towards the congregation. The swell is behind him, on the floor, and the movements are beneath his feet. This church was built by an individual, at an expense of 15,000*l.*; and was consecrated to the protestant religion in 1800.

ST. MARK'S Church is a large new building, built by subscription, at an expense of 16,000*l.* It will hold almost 2,500 persons, and was finished in 1803.

Here is a *Welsh Church*, and a *Scotch Church*. But it would extend beyond the proper limits, to particularize all the religious, and other public buildings of this great town. Several of the Dissenter's Meeting-Houses are neat and comfortable structures; but what is called the *Octagon* claims the most notice, as it unites great convenience with some portion of dignity. Of charitable foundations, the BLUE COAT HOSPITAL claims the first notice. This made its appearance as a Charity-School, supported by annual subscription and donation, for the educating and maintaining 40 boys and 10 girls, A. D. 1709.—Not to blazon the amiable spirit of charity, but only to shew how one spark of generosity tends to enkindle the flame of benevolence, let it be observed, that the number now provided for, by this benevolent establishment, is upwards of 280.—And though the institution still, in a considerable degree, depends upon the same precarious plan for its support, yet, while it is so ably conducted, there can be little doubt of its continuing to receive additional assistance. The building consists of a large body, having two wings; the whole built of brick, and ornamented with stone. The expense of the establishment, in 1803, was 2482*l.*—and the benefactions received amounted to 2913*l.*

The public INFIRMARY is another charitable institution, conducted with that extended hand of liberality, which the nature of such charities, to render them beneficial, imperiously require.—All persons, without distinction, are admitted, who come properly recom-

recommended by a subscriber; and, in cases of sudden accident, this prerequisite is dispensed with. It was opened in 1749, and increasing benefactions has enlarged both its powers, and its plan. The building is composed of brick, coped with stone. The wings form an *Asylum for decayed Seamen*, with their widows and children. This charity is supported, under the direction of a committee, by a drawback of sixpence per month from the wages of every mariner belonging to the port, or sailing out of it, like the Royal Hospital at Greenwich.

The *Poor-House* is a large plain building, and of a form more suitable for the uses to which such buildings are applied, than many built at a more early period.

Among other charitable institutions, particular notice is due to the *Dispensary*, where, since its commencement in 1778, nearly eleven thousand persons, on an average, have been annually cured, of almost every disorder incident to human nature:—and to the *Asylum for the Indigent Blind*, where employments, suited to their capacity, are provided for the unfortunate objects.

The *LADIES' CHARITY* was established in 1796, and is intended to afford relief and comfort to poor married women in child-bed, at their own houses. This very laudable and humane institution is chiefly supported and patronized by the benevolent part of the fair sex; and it must afford them much heart-felt pleasure to know, that nearly 500 suffering females have derived relief and cheering assistance, in one year, from this benign charity.

*Public Buildings, and Places devoted to Amusement, &c.* are numerous here; and a few of the modern erections present some claims to architectural beauty. The *THEATRE*, situated in Williamson-square, is a large and commodious pile of building. It was finished in 1772, and cost about 6000*l.* which sum was raised by thirty proprietors. About four years ago the front was enlarged, and a new elevation erected, after the design and under the direction of J. Foster, Esq. The company, under the management of those two pre-eminent comedians, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Kneass, performs here during the summer season, when many of the

rate London actors join it. In the season of 1798, an incident, at once singular and solemn, occurred at this theatre:—As John Palmer was performing the part of the Stranger in Kotzebue's once popular play of that name, and pronouncing the words—"there is another and a better world"—he sunk down on the stage, and immediately expired. He was buried at Walton, and soon afterwards the proprietors generously gave a benefit play for Mr. Palmer's orphan family; to whom was remitted, exclusive of funeral expenses, &c. the sum of 412l.

The ATHENÆUM is a building and establishment, calculated to embrace a *News* and *Coffer-Room*, and *Public Library*. It was commenced in 1798, and the coffee-room opened on the 1st of January, 1799. The building, which was erected by a subscription of 4,400l. arising from the shares of different members, has a stone front in Church-street; and, besides the rooms already specified, contains a handsome committee-room, and apartments to accommodate the librarian. The whole of the building, with its establishment and current support, is defrayed by about 450 subscribers, 300 of whom paid, on entrance, ten guineas for each share, afterwards the shares were raised to twenty guineas, and subsequently to thirty guineas each. Besides this, every subscriber pays two guineas annually.

The UNION NEWS ROOM, a similar establishment to the above, was instituted on the 1st. of Jan. 1801, the day of establishing the Union of England and Ireland. This building cost between four and five thousand pounds, and has a stone front in Duke-street.

The LYCEUM; consisting, like the above, of a coffee-room, library, and other necessary apartments, is a large handsome pile of building, erected by Mr. Harrison, of Chester, at an expense of about 11,000l. This sum was raised by a subscription of 800 proprietors, who pay annually one guinea each towards its support, &c. The coffee-room is sixty-eight feet by forty-eight, with a coved ceiling, thirty-one feet from the floor; and, besides most of the London and provincial newspapers, it is also supplied with many Literary Reviews and Magazines. The library-room is circular



cular, forty-five feet in diameter, and is fitted up with recesses, and adorned with several busts, &c.

The COMMERCIAL NEWS ROOM, in Statham's buildings, Lord-street; and the MINERVA NEWS ROOM, in Upper Dawson-street, are institutions, in some respects, similar to the preceding, though upon smaller scales.

The MUSIC HALL, in Bold-street, is a large handsome pile of building, and provided with every accommodation for concerts, &c. It will hold nearly 1300 persons.

The ASSEMBLY ROOM is a part of the Liverpool Arms hotel, in Castle-street. Besides these places, Liverpool contains a circular room built for a *Panorama*; a *Museum*, belonging to Mr. Bullock; a Free-Mason's-Hall, and a BOTANIC GARDEN. The latter, at the S. E. extremity of the town, consists of about five acres of ground, enclosed by a stone wall. It is supported by 375 proprietors, who, besides an original advance, pay an annual subscription of two guineas. This novel establishment is highly creditable to the taste and character of its projectors and supporters. Presents of rare and choice plants have been sent to it from the East and West Indies, and from the Cape-of-Good-Hope.

The boundaries of the Borough of Liverpool are defined by marks, called Mere-Stones, within which its liberties are included. This extent forms an area, containing 2,102 acres; of which about 900 belong to the corporation, and the rest forms private property. But what may be considered the complete population of Liverpool, is not to be confined to these limits, as numerous streets, lanes, alleys, and buildings, have progressively multiplied around the corporate boundaries.

Like most trading places, the streets in the oldest part of the town are too narrow, either to be handsome or healthy; and, with respect to many buildings more recently erected, greater regard has been generally paid to convenience than beauty. There are, however, several handsome streets; and an increasing prosperity seems to have been accompanied by an increasing taste for elegant as well as useful building. In some of the principal streets are houses, which do credit to the style of the artists, and the spirit



spirit of those who erected them: but being principally of brick, they lose much of the grand effect produced by free-stone fronts. In 1774, the number of streets, lanes, alleys, &c. was 230; but this number has been greatly increased, as the scheme of building several new streets, at the south end of the town, has been, since that period, in a degree carried into effect. Besides which, several rows, terraces, places, &c. in the environs, containing many good houses, have been erected.

To ascertain exactly the population of a place, so crowded with inhabitants, is a difficult task; and the difficulty is increased by the uncertain numbers necessarily absent on business. Two modes have been resorted to for ascertaining a point, which involves questions highly important in the view of policy and commerce. The one mode is, forming an average of the number of persons to each house, and multiplying that by the number of houses. But this is liable to considerable errors. Nothing but actual enumeration can effectually answer the purpose, and the difficulty of making it, does not leave this method free from objections.

From lists of the population, as detailed in the histories of the town, the numbers appear to have rapidly increased during certain intervals.

|                                   |                                                        |             |                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| In 1700, the number of houses was | 1312,                                                  | inhabitants | 5714                 |
| 1753, .....                       | 3700,                                                  | .....       | 20,000               |
| 1760, .....                       | 4200,                                                  | .....       | 25,000               |
| 1774, .....                       | 8002,                                                  | .....       | 34,407               |
| 1802, {                           | From the reports of<br>the House of Com-<br>mons ..... |             | 11,774, ..... 77,653 |

But from the very incorrect method in which this census was made, owing to the perverseness of families on the one hand, and the indolence of those appointed to make the returns, on the other, even this statement cannot be relied on. In the present instance it is said to be very incorrect.

In the year 1793, the corporation, by failures, and want of money,  
VOL. IX. O

ney, were obliged to apply to parliament for relief. The state of their affairs was printed, avouched, and laid before parliament; by which it appeared that their income, for the year 1792, was 25,000*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*—that their whole property was valued at 1,044,776*l.*—and that their debts amounted to 367,816*l.* 12*s.*—leaving a surplus of 676,959*l.* 8*s.*—besides some contingent concerns, estimated at upwards of 60,000*l.* more. This statement was ordered to be printed 15th April, 1793, in order to ascertain the propriety of allowing the corporation to issue negotiable notes, which was granted the same year, for a limited time, and was of great service to the trade of the town. This act laid the foundation of that for the issuing Exchequer Bills, for the relief of the country; though the former was kept back till the latter had been passed.

Liverpool, as a *borough*, returns two members to parliament, who are elected by the votes of the free burgesses; and of these about 2,500 possess that privilege. The town was constituted a borough 23 of Edward the First; and, in 1729, it was determined that the right of election was vested in the mayor, bailiffs, and freemen not receiving alms.

The military history of this town is short, and confined within narrow limits.

The parliament had a very strong garrison here in 1644, under the command of Colonel Moore, of Bank-Hall. Prince Rupert, assisted by the Earl of Derby, approached the town, after taking Bolton. It was defended on the east and north by a strong mud wall, with a vallum and foss, twelve yards wide and three deep. On the top of these were placed numerous bags of Irish wool; a vast importation having previously taken place. The south-east side was naturally defended by a wide marsh, inundated from the river; the streets leading to this were shut up, and those towards the land were defended by gates, with pieces of cannon planted in each avenue.

It had a strong castle on the south, surrounded with a ditch, twelve yards wide and ten deep; upon the ramparts of which were cannon, and the entrance defended by a fort of eight guns. A covered





covered way led thence to the river, by which the ditch was filled occasionally with water; and by which, at ebb tide, provisions and stores were brought in. The prince having possessed the heights, thought the conquest easy. He encamped on the hill, and, having in vain summoned the place to surrender, he commenced the siege. This, with continual repulses, attended with great slaughter, continued one month: when, from treachery of the commandant, which has been alledged by some—or the works on the north side being deserted by the troops, as mentioned by others—a breach was made, and the Prince's army entered the town on the 26th of June, putting to the sword all they met. The troops from the castle then beat a parley, submitted to become prisoners of war, and the whole town surrendered. It was soon after retaken by the parliament army, and Colonel Birch was appointed governor of the castle.

After this the works were dismantled, and the place, in point of defence, totally neglected. During two insurrections in the north, in behalf of the abdicated family of James, the inhabitants, from the defenceless state of the town, were under just apprehensions for its safety. For, had not the rebels been arrested in their progress by the battle of Preston Pans, in the one case, and diverted in their course, on the other, before they had seized the important post of Warrington, they would immediately have reduced Manchester, and the taking of Liverpool would then have proved a very easy task. There they would have met with men, ships, stores, &c. been enabled to have formed an easy communication with the rebels in Ireland, and opened an inlet for fresh auxiliaries from France. Their designs were providentially frustrated; but this can never form an apology for leaving so important a place so totally unprotected, by sea and land, as it has long been, during the threats of invasion, and the apprehensions of revolt. For though a *fort* is erected on the banks of the river at the N.W. end of the town, yet this is too trifling and weak to afford scarcely any protection to the place.

Such are the *chief* historical and topographical features and peculiarities of the second sea-port town in Great Britain; but to

detail, and particularly describe all the subjects and objects, directly and collaterally connected with it, would fill the pages of a large volume \*. Those who wish for more copious information, are referred to the works which have been consulted for the foregoing sketch, and which will be particularized at the end of this county.

Liverpool is situated in 55° 22' north lat. and 2° 30' long. at the distance of 204 miles N. W. from London. The whole town, with its proper suburbs, includes, according to a survey taken by Charles Eyre, in 1785, an area of 4,000 yards from north to south, and 2,500 yards from east to west. The latter side is bounded by the river Mersey, and on the opposite side are the borders of the townships of West-Derby and Everton: whilst Toxteth-Park skirts its southern side, and the northern side joins the township of Kirkdale. The whole of this area is not, however, covered with buildings, though the practice of erecting new houses, and forming new streets, continues to prevail to an amazing extent: and, if persevered in, will in a short period occupy the whole space, by a connected and spacious town.

Among the eminent natives of Liverpool, the names of DEARE, a *sculptor*, and STUBBS, the painter, will be long remembered with respect and admiration, by every true lover of the fine arts, who has had the pleasure of examining some of their best works. George Stubbs was born here in 1724, and died in London, July 10th, 1806. In early life he acquired some distinction for his knowledge in anatomy, and more particularly for that of the horse. In 1766, he published a learned scientific work, entitled "The Anatomy of the Horse," including a particular description of the bones, cartilages, muscles, facias, ligaments, nerves, arteries, veins, and glands; in eighteen tables, all done from nature. This work obtained him considerable reputation; and the many excellent

\* The shape of the town, situation and positions of the docks; and number of streets, squares, &c. are all laid down in the ground-plan of the town, published in No. XIV. of the *British Atlas*: A small engraved view of the town taken from the opposite side of the Mersey, accompanies this description.

lent paintings of horses, and other quadrupeds, that he continued occasionally to exhibit at Somerset-House, established for him a permanent fame, in this branch of the fine arts. As a painter of animals, he evinced not only a peculiar taste, but a style of excellence that conferred interest, beauty, and grandeur to his pictures. Had he rest satisfied with the fame that he thus merited, and acquired, his faithful biographer would not have had occasion to notice the poor attempts at a new species of painting on wedge-wood plates, that he exhibited a short time previous to his death. These plates have been erroneously called *enamel*, and some critics have injudiciously praised them; but I cannot reflect on them, or characterize them, in any other view, but as the playful, or weak productions of genius, when strayed from the paths of judgment and taste.

South of Liverpool, and nearly adjoining the town, is CHILD-WALL, an extensive parish, which includes the chapelries of Hale, Speke, Garston, Wavertree, Allerton, Great and Little Wolton, with several seats and manors. Among the latter, the most ancient and curious is the old mansion of SPEKE-HALL, or SPEAK-HALL, built mostly with timber and plaster, and when entire enclosed a square area or court. The house was formerly surrounded with a moat, and came into the possession of the Norris family, by the marriage of William Norris, Esq. with Joan, daughter and heiress of John Molineux, Esq. of Sefton. The Norris family was settled here for many generations: and Sir Edward Norris particularly distinguished himself in the battle of Flodden-field. A mutilated pedigree of this family is painted on canvass, and attached to an ancient carved mantle-piece in one of the rooms here. This mantle-piece is esteemed a curious specimen of old carving, and is traditionally said to have been brought from Edinburgh Castle, after the battle of Flodden, in 1513; but Mr. Hinckliffe, in the XIV<sup>th</sup> volume of the Archaeologia, p. 22, controverts this opinion, and concludes his paper by saying—"SPEKE-HALL certainly offers an interesting scene, as an ancient mansion, where, although the hand of time has already made considerable

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considerable ravages, the general disposition of the apartments is still to be traced; and the carving, of which a drawing is presented to the notice of the Society, may be deemed at least so far curious, as it affords a specimen of the taste of this country, soon after the introduction of the Italian architecture, and which, as to part of it, also seems by no means wanting in intrinsic merit."

The estate of Speke descended from the Norris family "to the late Topham Beaucherk, Esq. whose son, the present Mr. Beaucherk, disposed of it to the late Richard Watt, Esq. \*"

At a short distance to the east of Speke, and at the southern extremity of the county, is **HALE-HALL**, a seat and estate belonging to John Blackburne, Esq. one of the M. P. for Lancashire. This estate appears to have belonged to the *Ireland* family, soon after the conquest, and, according to some genealogical accounts, one of them was buried in the chapel belonging to the Hutt (the original seat) as early as 1088. An heiress of that family having married Thomas Blackburne, Esq. of Orford, near Warrington, thereby conveyed this estate into a new family, and it has since devolved to the present possessor, as heir of the above, Mr. Blackburne. The oldest part of the present mansion, the north front, appears to have been built by Sir Gilbert Ireland, in 1674, and continues in a tolerably perfect state. A modern front, to the south, has lately been erected, and this commands a fine view of the river Mersey, with the high grounds of Cheshire, and parts of North Wales. The river here is about three miles across, and Mr. Blackburne, as lord of the manor of Hale, is entitled to fourpence for every vessel that anchors on the northern shore of the river, in this district. Near the house is a decoy-pool, for taking wild ducks, teals, widgeons, &c. Here is a small chapel, which is independent of the parish church of Childwall.

In this chapelry was born, in the year 1578, **JOHN MIDDLETON**, commonly called the "*Child of Hale*," who was remarkable

\* *Archæologia*, Vol. XIV. p. 20. where a slight etching is given of the chimney-piece already referred to.





ALLERTON HALL.

from the Collection of the Earl of Arundel

Engraved by J. G. Thompson from a drawing by the same



able for his largeness of stature, and extraordinary strength. It is traditionally reported here, that one of the Ireland's \* took him to London, and introduced him to the presence of King James the First, drest up in a very fantastic style. On his return from London, a portrait was taken of him, which is preserved in the library of Brazen-nose College, at Oxford; and Dr. Plott † gives the following account of him:—"John Middleton, commonly called the Child of Hale, whose hand, from the carpus to the end of the middle finger, was seventeen inches; his palm eight inches and a half; and his height nine feet three inches, wanting but six inches of the size of Goliath."

ALLERTON-HALL, near the chapelry of Garston, is the seat of *William Roscoe*, Esq. the learned and elegant author of the *Life of Lorenzo de Medici*, and several other elegant literary works. The house is partly old, and partly modern, and commands a cheerful view of the broadest part of the Mersey river, with the high lands about Runcorn, in Cheshire ‡. This estate formerly belonged to the family of Latham, of Allerton, and Par-

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bold,

\* In a MS. account before me, he is called Sir Gilbert Ireland, "who, with some of the neighbouring Lancashire gentry, dizen'd him off with large ruffs about his neck and hands, a striped doublet of crimson and white round his waist, a blue girdle embroidered with gold, large white plush breeches, powdered with blue flowers; green stockings; broad shoes, of a light colour, having high red heels, and tied with large bows of red ribbon; and just below his knees were bandages of the same colour, with large bows; and by his side a sword, suspended by a broad belt over his shoulder, and embroidered, as his girdle, with blue and gold, with the addition of a gold fringe upon the edge. We are traditionally informed, that his amazing size, at one time, frightened away some thieves, who came to rob his mother's house." In the dress just described he appears in his picture, in the possession of Mr. Blackburne, at Hale.

† History of Staffordshire.

‡ See View of the house annexed.

bold, near Ormskirk, who sold it to Alderman Percival, of Liverpool, from whom it was purchased by John Hardman, who sold it to the present possessor.

In Garston is an old mansion, called *AIDBURGH-HALL*, which formerly belonged to the Tarleton family, and, after passing through different proprietors, came to John Tarleton, Esq. Several other handsome modern seats, and old halls, ornament the country south of Liverpool, and, on the high grounds east of the town, are numerous pleasant, and some elegant villas, belonging to the wealthy merchants of that prosperous sea-port. Indeed the environs of Liverpool, like those of London, and some other large cities and towns, are thickly covered with single houses, and rows of buildings; and clearly indicate to the passing traveler and foreigner, that domestic comforts and luxuries are the ultimate rewards of English industry and active talent.

The parish of *WALTON*, called *Walton on the Hill*, from the elevated situation of the church, comprehends a large tract of country north of Liverpool, and, besides the parish church, which is a rich rectory, has the chapelries of *Formby*, *W. Derby*, and *Kirkby*, dependant on, and subordinate to it: besides the townships of *Toxteth-park*, *Croxteth-park*, *Bootle*, *Everton*, *Kirkdale*, *Fazakerly*, *Linacre*, *Simond's-wood*, *Raver's-Meals*, &c. There was an ancient family of Walton, of Walton; "the last of the name, who owned all the lands in Walton, left three daughters, coheiresses. By one of them, a third part passed to the family of *Fazakerly*, in which it continued till sold to the late Earl of *Derby*. Another part went to the *Chorleys*, of *Chorley*, but being forfeited in the rebellion of 1715, it was purchased by Mr. *Crompton* and others. The other third went to the family of *Hoghton*, of *Hoghton-tower*, by the descendants of which, most of the estate was sold to Mr. *Atherton* \*."

SEFTON

\* Description of the country round Manchester, p. 329.

SEFTON is a parish and manor, which formerly belonged to the Molyneaux family, who had a seat here, which they possessed from their Norman ancestor, William de Moulins, who settled here on the grant made him by Roger de Poitiers. Previous to the latter, this property was held by the Thanes, who were the gentry of the Anglo-Saxons \*. The church at Sefton is a large and handsome pile of building, with a nave, two aisles, and a tower with a steeple. It is said that this building was erected in the time of Henry the Eighth, by Anthony Molyneaux, a rector of this place, and who was distinguished for his preaching, and for many acts of piety †. The chancel is divided from the nave by a screen, and contains sixteen stalls of elegant carving. In this place are deposited the remains of many of the Molyneaux family, and several curious and fine monuments are still remaining to perpetuate the race. Among these are two cross-legged figures in stone, with triangular shields; which, Mr. Pennant says, are expressive of their profession of Knight's Templars. These effigies are drawn in a book in the herald's office, from a fine pedigree sent them by Lord Sefton. Around an altar-tomb, of white marble, is an inscription in memory of Sir Richard Molyneaux, who died in 1439, and Joan his wife. He was Lord of Bradley, Haydike, Warrington, Newton, Burton-wode, and Newton-in-the-dale; distinguished himself in the battle of Agincourt, and received the honour of knighthood from Henry the Fifth. Effigies, in brass, are preserved of Sir William Molyneaux, and his two wives: he signalized himself in three actions against the Scots, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and in that of Flodden took two banners. The Lancashire archers contributed much to the victory: and Henry, under his own seal, sent Sir William a letter of thanks for his share of it. He died in 1548. The figures of Sir William Molyneaux (son of the last mentioned) with his two wives and thirteen children, are also expressed in brass plates. On a flat stone

\* See Pennant's "Tour from Downing to Alston-Moor," 4to. 1801.

† See Lodge's Irish Peerage.



stone is preserved the memory of Caryl Lord Molyneaux, an eminent, but unsuccessful royalist: his family raised a regiment of foot and another of horse in support of Charles the First; for which he was subjected to heavy penalties during the usurpation; but after the restoration was advanced to high honors. In the broken painted glass of the windows are some inscriptions, recording the respective makers: among them are, one to Molyneaux, dated 1542; another to Margaret Bulcley, daughter to Sir Richard Molyneaux, dated 1543; and a third to an Ireland of Lydiate, dated 1540.

#### ORMSKIRK

Is a populous market and manufacturing town, which formerly belonged to the Canons of Burscough Priory, in the vicinity; and by a grant from Edward the First, to that religious house, was invested with the privilege of a market and fair. This grant was renewed and confirmed by Edward the Second. Leland's account of this place is very concise, as he says, there is "a parish church in the town, no river by it, but mosses on each side." The town now contains four principal streets, which intersect each other nearly at right angles: and the spinning of cotton for the Manchester manufactories, and thread for sail cloth, constitute the chief employ of the inhabitants. The patronage of the church, and the property of the manor, now belong to the Earl of Derby. A remarkable feature is given to the church, by a tower and steeple, being *detached*\*. Withinside is a burial vault of the Derby family, who, previous to the dissolution of the monasteries, were interred at Burscough priory. Edward the Third Earl of Derby,

\* This odd circumstance has never been satisfactorily accounted for; though it is traditionally reported, that it originated with two capricious sisters, who were desirous of raising some sacred memorial; and though they agreed to build a tower and steeple, yet they could not agree about uniting and connecting their works: but at length determined to erect both, detached from each other.

Derby\*, by will dated 1572, directed that a chapel, with a cemetery, should be built at Ormskirk; and that his body should be interred there, and a monument erected to his memory "according to his honor and vocation." At a subsequent period some of the monuments of the Stanley family that had been raised at Burscough priory, were brought here. In the year 1719, the vicarage of Ormskirk was one of the sixty-three small livings augmented by Queen Anne's bounty. The church, which stands at the N. W. end of the town, on an eminence, contains, among other monuments, "two figures of Stanlies; short hair, hands closed, heralds mantles and arms. Two ladies in close bodied gowns, one with an Earl's coronet. These probably were the first Earl of Derby and his two wives; the lady with the coronet his second wife, the Countess of Richmond; for the first, who was sister to the famous Richard Earl of Warwick, died before he was created Earl. The Earl, in his will, mentions "personages" which he had caused to be made for his father, mother, grandfather, and grandmother, at Burscough. Probably all, except the above, were destroyed at the dissolution†." In the year 1801, this town had a population of 2554 inhabitants. The parish includes several other

\* The funeral of this nobleman, who died at Lathom House, October 24, 1574, and was buried on the 4th of the following December, was peculiarly magnificent, and conducted with great pomp and parade. A particular account of it is preserved in Collins's Peerage, extracted from the MSS. of John Amstis, Esq. Garter King at Arms. Among other things it states, that "the chapel, and house, with the two courts, should be hanged with black cloth, and garnished escutcheons of his arms." A hearse was erected at Ormskirk, "of five principals, thirty feet of height, twelve feet of length, and nine feet of breadth, double railed, and garnished with black cloth, velvet, fringe of silk, taffaty lined with buckram; also gold and silver ornaments; helm, crest, and escutcheons." This stately hearse was erected in the nave of the church, where the body was conducted by a grand procession; and in which it was deposited for some time, during the performance of several formal ceremonies, and afterwards interred in the chapel.

† Pennant's Tour from Downton to Alston Moor, p. 53.

other townships and hamlets; and at about two miles north are some small remains of BURSCOUGH PRIORY, which was founded in the time of Richard the First, by Robert Fitzhenry, who was then lord of Lathom. This Robert endowed it with considerable property, emoluments, and alms; and according to the weak superstition of the age, thought thereby to obtain pardon and rest for the souls of Henry the Second, John Earl of Moreton, himself, his wife, and those of his ancestors; at the same time wishing the kingdom of Heaven to all persons who would increase the gifts, and "giving to the Devil, and his angels, all who should impiously infringe on his bequests"\*.—At the time of the dissolution, this house maintained a prior and five canons of the Augustine Order, with forty servants; and was endowed, according to Tanner, with an annual income of 129l. 1s. 10d. Of this once extensive priory, only a small fragment of unshaped ruins remains. Contiguous to Burscough is

LATHOM-HOUSE, the seat of EDWARD WILBRAHAM BOOTLE, Esq. M. P. This place is particularly distinguished, as the ancient residence and property of Robert de Fitzhenry, or Lathom†; several of the Stanley family; and lastly, the Bootles. During the calamitous civil wars in Charles the First's time, Lathom, like Wardour Castle, in Wiltshire‡, acquired particular renown in consequence of the gallant and heroic resistance that it manifested under the command of Charlotte, Countess of Derby, who was besieged here by Colonels Egerton, Rigby, Ashton, and Holcroft,

\* Dugdale's Monasticon, Vol. II. p. 304.

† He was one of the Barons whose names are recorded on a curious manuscript roll, relating to the memorable siege of Calais, in the twenty-first year of the reign of Edward the Third. On this occasion he had under him one baron, eight esquires, one knight, and twenty-three archers on horseback.—For some account of this siege, &c. see Vol. I. of the present work, under the article of Windsor-Castle.

‡ See Beauties of Wiltshire, Vol. I.



Holcroft, from the 28th of February, 1644, to the 27th of May following, when the commander, withdrew his forces to Bolton. The Earl was in the Isle of Man during this time. In this attack, it is stated that the Parliament-army lost above 2000 men, and yet marched nearly the same number away. "The heroic, and most undaunted Lady Governess was often without the gates, and sometimes near the trenches of the enemy, encouraging her brave soldiers with her presence; and as she constantly began all her undertakings with prayers in her chapel, so she closed them with thanksgiving; and truly, it was hard to say whether she was more eminent for courage, prudence, or steady resolution; or justice, piety, and religion\*." A description of the house, as it then stood, will shew how well it was adapted to resist the assailment of a considerable army. It stood upon a flat boggy ground, and was encompassed with a wall of two yards in thickness. On this wall nine towers were erected, each of them mounted with six pieces of ordnance, so placed as to enfilade the country, and command the approaches in every part. A moat, of twenty-four feet in breadth and six feet in depth, surrounded the whole; and round the bank of the moat, between the wall and the graff, was a strong row of pallsadoes. In the midst of the house, was the Eagle Tower, surmounting all the rest; and the gate-house, at the entrance of the first court, had a strong tower on each side. On these the best marksmen were judiciously placed to harass the besiegers, and frequently killed the officers and others in the trenches, and in their passage to and from them. The singular situation of this house increased the difficulties of the siege to an almost incredible degree; and the enemy was unable to raise a single battery against it, so as to make a breach in the wall practicable to enter the house by way of storm†. After the siege of Lathom house had been raised, on Prince Rupert's arrival there, directions were  
given

\* History of the house of Stanley, 8vo. ed. p. 239.

† History of the house of Stanley, p. 234, 254, &c.

SCARISBRICK-HALL, the seat of *Thomas Eccleston, Esq.* is seated in the parish of Halsall, at the distance of about three miles north from Ormskirk. The owner, who settled here in 1778, has particularly distinguished himself for his spirited improvements in the agriculture of his estate; and, in the year 1796, received, from the Society of Arts, the honorary gold medal for the useful effects he produced in draining that sterile tract of bog-land called Martin-Meer. His account of this arduous undertaking is published in the seventh volume of the "*transactions*" of that society, wherein he states, that the "meer was formerly a large pool, or lake of fresh water, of an irregular form, surrounded chiefly by mosses, or boggy land, containing near 1717 acres, of eight yards to the pole, which is the customary measure of the neighbourhood (about 3632 statute acres). It lies in the different manors of Scarisbrick, Burscough, North-Meols, Tarleton, and Rufford." To drain this stagnant pool, was a favorite scheme of a Mr. Fleetwood of Bank-Hall, as early as the year 1692; but although he cut a canal from the meer to the sea, and expended considerable sums of money in constructing banks, flood-gates, &c. he failed in effecting his intention. Undismayed by this event, Mr. Eccleston, assisted by the scientific and skilful advice of Mr. Gilbert, of Worsley, (who had judiciously planned, and successfully executed, some difficult subjects of engineering for the Duke of Bridgewater,) resolved to make another effort towards accomplishing this object. "The plan Mr. Gilbert struck out, which I have executed," says Mr. Eccleston, "was to have, in the main sluice\*, three different pair of flood-gates." The first, to keep out the sea; the second, at about half a mile distance nearer to the meer, to stop the sea there in case any accident should happen to the first; and the third built close to, and in the same walls with the sea-gates, but to open and shut in a contrary direction. All these gates are kept open when the tide has sufficiently

\* The sluice, or canal, is nearly five miles in length from the sea-gates.

sufficiently retired ; and when the water rises above the level of the meer, the sea-gates are shut. " Thus," continues Mr. Eccleston, " by the great skill and superior ingenuity of Mr. Gilbert, the great obstacle to the perfect draining of Martin-Meer is done away, which had baffled the many vain efforts of the proprietors for almost a century." A part of the land being drained in 1783, in the following year some few acres were ploughed up, and " yielded a tolerable crop of spring corn ; some yielded a very inferior kind of hay ; and the rest was pasture. In the next year the proprietor prepared for oats and barley, by ploughing nearly 200 large acres." He proceeds to state the advantages that have resulted from this drainage ; and observes, that previous to this " the best meer-lands let for a few shillings the large acre." In 1785, he sold some standing barley at 11l. 17s. 6d. per acre ; and the purchaser to cut, carry off, &c. at his own expense. " Good roads, for several miles in length, have been made across the meer, by means of faggots, covered with a stratum of sand. The recovered land is now generally appropriated to pasturage, on which horses thrive better than any other kind of stock.

RUFFORD-HALL is seated between the meer already described and the great road leading from Ormskirk to Preston, at the distance of about six miles north of the former town. This estate belongs to Sir Thomas Dalrymple Hesketh, Bart. who has recently built a new mansion on it, and much improved and adorned the park by new plantations, &c. This estate, in the parish of Croston, and in the hundred of Leyland, has a chapel of ease, which was built at an expense of 1165l. raised by brief. The dean and chapter of Chester receive 40l. per annum from this manor.

SOUTHPORT, in North-Meols, has, within a few years, become a place of fashionable resort for bathing ; and its fine flat lands are peculiarly favorable to this healthful recreation. Here is a good inn, and several lodging-houses.



## PRESCOT,

A manufacturing town, is seated on high ground, on the great road between Liverpool and Warrington. Leland calls this place a "little market, having no notable water about hit, a iii mile from Mersey up toward Lyrpole. Mr. Molineux, a knight of great landes, a ii miles from Prestcode, dwellith at a place called *Crostoffe*. *Tokstoffe*, a park of the king's hard by his howse. *Knollesly*, a parke having a praty house of the erles of Derby within a mile of Prestcod. Sir William Norrys dwellith at a house called *Speyke*, a ii or iii miles from Prestcod\*." This parish abounds with collieries; and supplies the town of Liverpool, and many adjacent places, with coals at a cheap rate. Among the manufactures of Prescott, those of watch-tools, and movements, and also small files are particularly celebrated. The former have been long established here; and, in consequence of various inventions and improvements that have originated in this town, the business is now carried on to a considerable extent. A large portion of the inhabitants are regularly employed in making the movements, springs, chains, cases, wires, and various other component parts of watches; and also in the manufactory of tools, &c. for the London artizans. The small files are also much valued for their superiority of steel and cutting. Coarse earthenware, sail-cloth, and cottons, are also manufactured in this town and its vicinity. The church is large, with a lofty steeple; and, attached to the outside wall of the former, is a statue, in stone, of *John Ogle*, of Prescott Hall.—By a valuation of church livings, made January, 1756, the rectory of Prescott was rated at 500*l.* per annum. It is now a vicarage, and in the gift of King's College, Cambridge. The chapelries of *Farnworth* to the south, *Rainsford* to the north, *St. Helens* and *Sankey* to the east, are all within this parish. In 1801, the township of Prescott contained

\* Itinerary, Vol. VII. fol. 56.

tained 736 houses, and 3,465 inhabitants. Among the great manufactories of this parish, that of PLATE-GLASS, at *Ravenhead*, is entitled to particular notice, as being the most complete and ample of the kind in this country. In the year 1773, an act of parliament was obtained for establishing these works, and incorporating the proprietors: but though this company appears to have spared neither application nor expense, yet it failed in about twenty years; and the proprietors were obliged to sell the premises, &c. in 1794. In the same year, a new company was established and incorporated; and, combining prudent with scientific management, they have succeeded in firmly establishing the concern, and improving many processes in the manufacture. Cast plate glass, with concave and convex mirrors, are now made here, of sizes and qualities equal, or superior, to any that have been imported from the continent. Of the latter, some have been made thirty-six inches in diameter; and of the former, one hundred and forty-three inches in height, by seventy-two inches in width. In these extensive works, which cover about twenty acres of ground, nearly 300 persons are usually employed in the processes of melting, casting, blowing, polishing, &c. The room, or hall in which the glasses are cast, is two hundred feet long, by seventy-eight feet wide; and its roof is supported by lofty pointed arches. In it are three furnaces; and the table on which the plates are cast, is a solid piece of copper, fourteen feet long, by eight feet in breadth, and seven inches thick. Two large steam engines are employed for grinding and polishing the glass plates. At the company's warehouse, near Blackfriars Bridge, London, a great variety of specimens are to be seen.

#### ST. HELENS, or ST. HELLEN,

From its advantageous situation on the Sankey canal, and from its natural characteristics, has gradually increased to a town of considerable size and consequence. A most extensive copper work was established here about the year 1780, by

the proprietors of the Paris-mine, in Anglesea; and it is stated, in the "Description of the country round Manchester," that 20,000 tons of ore are annually smelted here and at another of the company's works on the same canal. "The Ravenhead works manufacture thirty tons weekly, of small copper bars (not seven ounces troy weight), for the East India Company, which are exported to China, and supposed to pass for coin. These bars are dropt from the mould into water, when an effervescence begins, in a few minutes, to take place at one end, and proceeds quickly to the other, by which the bar is changed, from a leaden hue, to the colour of red sealing-wax \*." In the vicinity of Prescott, is

KNOWSLEY, or KNOWSLEY-PARK, an ancient seat belonging to the Earl of Derby. The park is extensive, and abounds with fine woods; but many of the largest trees are nearly stript of their foliage, and smaller branches, and slope towards the north-east. Seated on an elevated part of the park, is the mansion, a building that has evidently been erected at different periods. The most ancient part, which is built of stone, and has two round towers, is said, in the work just quoted from, to have been raised by Thomas, the first Earl of Derby, for the reception of his son-in-law, King Henry the Seventh; but, in the "History of the house of Stanley," it is stated, that the Earl only "enlarged his house, at Knowsley, by the stone building, and repaired and beautified the other part; and also that of Latham." The preparations made by the Earl, in consequence of the Royal visit, were upon a grand scale; for, besides enlarging and decorating his mansions, "he purchased a road, from the cross-ways leading from Sankey and Winwick (now called Market-gate,) to the river, through the field, now called Bridge-street; and, at the bottom thereof, erected a spacious stone bridge, and threw up a causeway across the marshes, to the rising ground on the Cheshire side, and kept the same

\* "Description of the country round Manchester," &c. 4to. p. 312.



same in repair all his life, and his successors after him, to the time of William Earl of Derby\*." The additions which were then made to Knowsley mansion, are not precisely defined; and the next account of any alterations, refers to the time of James, the tenth Earl, who was an active public character, during the reigns of William the Third, Queen Anne, and George the First. He died at Knowsley, in February, 1735-6; but for some time previous to his decease, he had retired to this seat, and made great additions to the house, &c. The work just referred to, specifies, that he *rebuilt* the old seat, "after the modern way, in the most sumptuous and beautify' manner," and caused the following "calumniating inscription," as Mr. Pennant styles it, to be cut on the front.—"*James, EARL of DERBY, Lord of Man and the Isles, grandson of James, Earl of Derby, by Charlotte, daughter of Cloud, Duke of Tremouille, who was beheaded at Bolton, the 15th October, 1651, for strenuously adhering to King Charles the Second, who refused a bill, unanimously passed by both houses of parliament, for restoring to the family the estates which he had lost by his loyalty to him.*" Of the ancient and honorable family of Stanley, the house contains many portraits; some of which are curious as works of art, but more interesting, as serving to perpetuate the likeness, costume, &c. of persons who have, at different periods, been distinguished in the tented field, in the senate, or at court. Among these are the following:—

*Portrait of THOMAS Lord STANLEY, afterwards Earl of Derby, dressed in black, with the George, in a bonnet, small ruff, and a white wand.* This nobleman was an active character in the reigns of Edward the Fourth, Richard the Third, and Henry the Seventh. He first distinguished himself at the siege of Berwick, under Richard, then Duke of Gloucester; and for his fidelity to Edward and his children, he provoked the hatred of the Usurper. He narrowly escaped assassination at the council board, at the instant his friend *Hastings* was dragged from it to execution. At the

the memorable battle of Bosworth-field, he joined Henry, Earl of Richmond, whom he had the honor of crowning with the coronet torn from the brows of the slain tyrant. For his bravery on this occasion, he was created Earl of Derby, and received many other honorary favors from his monarch. He died in 1504, and was buried at Burscough. His second consort,

*Portrait of MARGARET, COUNTESS of RICHMOND*, is represented in a religious habit, in the act of praying. The Earl was her third husband; and, after the old lady had satiated herself with the pleasures of life, she requested, and obtained permission of her spouse, to spend the remainder of her life in chastity, and, according to the irrational custom of the times, mortify both her "flesh and spirit," in acts of self-denial and punishment. In the presence of Bishop Fisher, she made this vow of chastity; and afterwards wore girdles and shifts of hair, to irritate and chastise the "sinful flesh." In translating religious books, and performing many acts of charity, she appropriated much of her time; and among other "pious deeds," she founded St. John's College, at Cambridge\*. She was daughter to John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset; was first married to Edmund Earl of Richmond, uterine brother to Henry the Sixth, and afterwards to Sir Henry Stafford. By the former husband she had Henry the Seventh. She died June 29, 1509, and was buried in the sumptuous chapel which that monarch erected at Westminster.

*Portrait of GEORGE*, son to the first Earl, who died in the life time of his father. He was a young man of promising talents, and distinguished himself both in the cabinet and in the field, being appointed commissioner to treat with the Scots, in the reign of Edward, and in that of Henry, was very instrumental in the defeat of the Yorkists, at the conclusive battle of Stoke.

*Portrait of THOMAS, SECOND EARL of DERBY*, who became surety in a 50,000*l.* bond, for the performance of the marriage contract between Mary, third daughter of Henry the Seventh,

\* See Beauties, &c. Vol. II. p. 69.

venth, and the Prince of Spain, afterwards Charles the Fifth. He was present at the celebrated *battle of Spurs*\*, with Henry the Eighth, and sat on the trial of the ill-fated Stafford, Duke of Buckingham.

*Portrait of EDWARD, the THIRD EARL of DERBY, painted by Holbein.* This nobleman was the greatest character of the age, and is the theme of panegyric to many writers of that period. *Lloyd* †, Stow, and other authors, have descanted on his munificence, loyalty, &c.; and the former quaintly remarks, that "his greatness supported his goodness, and his goodness endeared his greatness." Mr. Pennant observes, "he is the finest example of the ancient independant English nobility that remains on record. He lived among his people, ready to sacrifice his life in the cause of his prince, when popular tempests arose, not to insult him with impertinence, faction, and ingratitude, like the independants of later days †." Stow says, that he offered to raise 10,000 men at his own charge, in defence of Queen Elizabeth; and that his hospitality and house-keeping were so "famous," that he kept "eleven score on checkroll §, never discontinuing, the space of twelve years. His feeding, especially of aged persons, twice a-day, three score and odd; besides all comers thrice a-week, ap-  
P 4 pointed

\* The curious old painting, representing this event, and described in Vol. I. P. 217, of this work, has been presented by his Majesty to the Society of Antiquaries of London.

† State Worthies, Vol. I. p. 433. 8vo 1766.

‡ Tour from Downing to Alston-Moor, p. 26, where there is a paltry print, pretending to be a portrait of the above-named nobleman. Indeed, the whole of the prints in that volume are contemptibly bad: and we cannot help regretting, that the respectable name of Pennant should be attached to such a volume, many passages of which are unacknowledged extracts from other works.

§ This was a roll, or book, containing the names of such servants, &c. as were in the pay and service of great persons,



pointed for his dealing days; and every Good-friday, these thirty-five years, one with another, two thousand seven hundred, with meat, drink, money, and moneys-worth. His yearly portion, for the expenses of his house, 4000*l*." As he lived thus magnificently, he died greatly regretted; and, as has been already stated, page 219, was interred with distinguished pomp at Ormskirk.

*Portrait* of HENRY, FOURTH EARL of DERBY, who had the honor of the embassy, to invest Henry the Third, of France, with the order of the garter; and the mortification of being appointed one of the judges of Mary Stuart.

*Portrait* of FERDINAND, FIFTH EARL of DERBY, who was cut off, early in life, by poison. A particular account of the symptoms preceding his death, &c. is printed in the tour just referred to, extracted from Camden's annals of Elizabeth's reign; by which it appears, that the murderer, taking advantage of the superstitious folly of the age, endeavoured to screen himself by exciting a belief, that the Earl died by the influence of witchcraft. In an instrument called, "a true report of such reasons and conjectures as caused many learned men to suppose him to be bewitched," it is related, that "Sir Edward Filton, who, with other justices, examined certain *witches*, reporteth, that one of them being bidden to say the Lord's prayer, said it well; but being conjured in the name of Jesus, that if she had bewitched his honour, she should be able to say the same, she never could repeat that petition, *forgive us our trespasses*, no, not although it was repeated unto her.—A homely woman, about the age of fifty, was found mumbling in a corner of his honour's chamber; but what, God knoweth." Several other equally frivolous and stupid circumstances are detailed to prove, as then intended, the power of witchery; but all of which rather exemplify the wicked craftiness of some persons, and weak credulity of others.

*Portrait* of WILLIAM, the SIXTH EARL of DERBY, who is painted in full length, with a high crowned hat, and in the fashionable dress of James the First's reign.

*Portrait* of JAMES, the SEVENTH EARL OF DERBY, distinguished for his loyalty, courage, and tragical end. The truly  
magna-



magnanimous conduct of his lady, the Countess of Derby, has already been described, page 221; and his bravery was equally eminent, and often put to the test during the unhappy civil wars. As a proof of his extraordinary influence in Lancashire, when he was directed, in 1642, to assemble his friends and forces in behalf of the unfortunate King, it is stated, that no less than 20,000 men came to his standards on each of the heaths of Bury, Ormskirk, and Preston.

At this period, it was first proposed to erect the royal standard at Warrington, where such a force would have proved peculiarly important; but in consequence of raising it at Nottingham, this advantage was lost. The Earl, however, subsequently mustered three regiments of foot, and three troops of horse, at his own expense, and turned them over to the use and command of the king. The most memorable instance of this Earl's courage, occurred at a place called *Wigan-Lane*, in this county, where, in 1651, he vigorously opposed his little army, of only 600 horse, against the enemy, consisting of 3000 troops, commanded by the determined Lilburne. This superiority of force compelled the Earl to retreat; but not till he had been wounded, and had one horse killed under him\*. He afterwards sought refuge in the Isle of Man, which place he was summoned to surrender, by Colonel Ireton, but resisted the demand, in a letter which displays peculiar eloquence of style, and magnanimity of sentiment†. He was at length trepanned

\* See Clarendon's History of the Rebellion, Book XIII.

† "I received your letter with indignation," he writes, "and with scorn I return you this answer—That I cannot but wonder whence you should gather any hopes from me, that I should (like you) prove treacherous to my sovereign; since you cannot be insensible of my former actings in his late Majesty's service, from which principle of loyalty I am no way departed. I scorn your proffers; I disdain your favours; I abhor your treasons; and am so far from delivering this island to your advantage, that I will keep it to the utmost of my power, to your destruction. Take this final answer, and forbear any further solicitations; for, if you trouble me with any more messages upon this

panned by the Parliamentary party, carried before a court-martial, at Chester, sentenced to death, and unrelentingly and barbarously executed at Bolton, in this county, where he fell with the firmness of a soldier and piety of a Christian, April 1, 1651. Collins, in the Peerage, has detailed an affecting account of the heroic conduct and speech of this nobleman, when on the scaffold \*. He was not only a warrior but an antiquary, and wrote a small topographical work, which has been printed in Peck's *Desiderata Curiosa* †.

*Portrait* of CHARLOTTE DE LA TREMOUILLE, COUNTESS of DERBY, wife of the preceding nobleman, and daughter to William, Prince of Orange.

*Portrait* of CHARLES, EIGHTH EARL of DERBY, who joined Sir George Booth, and other insurgents, in 1659; but being taken prisoner, he was confined 'till the following year gave freedom, but not content, to the long depressed royalists. During the civil wars, this family lost most of its landed property; and after the restoration, some of the Lords, in parliament, formed a private bill, for the purpose of restoring, to this loyal Peer, the estates which had been sequestrated. This bill was strongly opposed, and rejected, without coming to a second reading, or being

this occasion, I will burn the paper, and hang the bearer. This is the immutable resolution, and shall be the undoubted practice of him who accounts it the chiefest glory to be

His Majesty's most loyal and obedient subject,

DERBY."

Castle-Town, July 12, 1649.

\* See also Lord Somers' Tracts, Coll. II. Vol. II. p. 507.

† It is entitled, "The History and Antiquities of the Isle of Man, by James, Earl of Derby, and of Man; with an account of his many troubles and losses in the civil war, and of his own proceedings in the Isle of Man during his residence there in 1643. Interspersed with large and excellent advices to his son Charles, Lord Strange, upon many curious points. From the original (all in his Lordship's own hand writing), in the hands of the Hon. Roger Gale, Esq."



ing submitted to the King; though the inscription already quoted states otherwise, and reproaches the monarch for refusing his assent to the bill\*.

Exclusive of the above, here are several other portraits; and also a large collection of pictures, by the old masters, some of which are works of acknowledged merit. The chief of these were collected by James, Earl of Derby, who patronized a Mr. *Winstanley*, a native of Warrington, and sent him abroad purposely to purchase them†. I shall briefly specify the titles and subjects of a few of these. *A holy family*—TITIAN. *The feast of Belshazzar*—Rembrandt. *The Roman Augur*—S. Rosa: *Banditti in a rocky Landscape*; also *Hagar and Ishmael* with the angel, by the same sublime master. *The Angel driving Adam and Eve from Paradise*—Denis Calvert. *A Wild Boar Hunt*—Snyders and Rubens. *The feast in a gallery*, and *The Wife of Pilate interceding in behalf of our Saviour*—Paul Veronese. *Our Saviour delivering the Keys to Peter*—Vandyck: and *The Descent from the Cross*, by the same master. *The Love of the Arts*, represented by a beautiful figure of Cupid leaning over rich armour, musical instruments, pictures, and pieces of sculpture; a fine picture, said, by Winstanley, to be the joint production of Snyders and Vandyck. *St. Bartholemew*, by Spagnolet, which Mr. Pennant calls, "a horribly fine picture."

*Nicodemus* communing with our Saviour by night—Tintoret.

#### WIGAN,

A borough and market town of considerable importance, in a commercial point of view, is situated near the rise of the river Douglas, whose banks are celebrated as the scene of the memorable defeat of the Saxons by King Arthur. So far back as the time of Leland, Wigan is called, a "paved town, as big as Warrington,

\* See Drake's Parliamentary History, XXIII. 50, 53.

† He etched twenty of these pictures, which are published.

rington, but better builded, and inhabited by some merchants, artificers, and farmers." In its present state, it has a neat, though irregular appearance; and has been lately much improved, by the opening of two new streets, and the erection of several handsome buildings. An extensive trade is carried on in the manufacture of coarse *home made* linens, checks, calicoes, fustians, and other cotton goods. Here are also large brass and pewter works.

Wigan is a borough, by prescription, and has had its privileges confirmed by the several charters of Henry the Third, Edward the Second, Edward the Third, Richard the Second, and Charles the Second. Its corporate body consists of a Mayor, Recorder, twelve Aldermen, and two Bailiffs. Two Members are returned to Parliament; and the right of election is vested in the free burgesses, in number about 200. The representation of this borough has occasioned some very expensive contests; and it is said to have cost George Byng, Esq. 10,000*l.* in his opposition to the interest of Sir Fletcher Norton, and Simon Luttrell, Esq. Returns appear so early as 23d and 35th Edward the First, after which the privilege was suffered to be dormant for 240 years, no other return being made till 1 Edward the Sixth.

The Parish Church, which is ancient beyond any traditionary account, is commonly called an handsome structure, composed of a nave, a spacious chancel, and two side aisles. The original chancel was taken down and rebuilt on a larger scale, about the middle of the seventh century, in a style corresponding with the rest of the fabric, by an ancestor of the present Lord Bradford, who is the patron of the living. The only monuments worthy notice are, one to the memory of Sir *Roger Bradshaigh*, who eminently distinguished himself by his zealous loyalty in the civil war of Charles the First—and an altar and tomb, now much obscured by successive coats of white-wash, of Sir *William*, and Lady *Mabel, Bradshaigh*, who died in the reign of Edward the Third. Within the Communion-rails, are deposited the remains of Dr. GEORGE HALE, rector of this church, and bishop of Chester, who died August 23, 1668. The rectory is one of the best endowed

endowed in the kingdom: and the incumbent is always Lord of the Manor.

Within the town is a chapel of the establishment, also three dissenting meetings, and a Roman Catholic place of worship. A Town-hall was built in 1721, at the joint expense of the Earl of Barrymore and Sir Roger Bradshaigh, the then representatives of the borough. A *Free-school* was erected, and liberally endowed, about the beginning of the last century, by voluntary contribution; and upwards of thirty years ago, the same liberality established a *Blue-coat-school* for thirty boys. A commodious *Work-house* has been also built at the town's expense, where the necessitous, and superannuated poor are comfortably accommodated; industry, in the more able, is furnished with the means; and the meritorious are encouraged and rewarded. A *Dispensary*, built of stone, has been lately erected, and is supported by the benevolence of the town and its vicinity, where the poor, when properly recommended, have the benefit of the advice of an able and experienced physician, and are provided with medicines gratis. The best surgical assistance is administered in cases requiring it.

At the north end of the town, is a *monumental pillar*, erected in 1679, by Alexander Rigby, Esq. then Sheriff of this county, to commemorate the valour and loyalty of Sir *Thomas Tyldesley*, who was slain on this spot, in 1651, in the action wherein the Earl of Derby was defeated by Lilburne.

In a field near *Scholes Bridge*, contiguous to this town, a spring was lately discovered, which has obtained the name of *Wigan-Spa*, or New Harrowgate, as the water resembles that of Harrowgate, in Yorkshire. It is highly impregnated with sulphur, and has been successfully recommended in various cutaneous disorders. An appropriate building has been erected for the use of the invalids resorting to this spring, with conveniences for drinking the water, and for using it either as a cold or hot bath.

The population of Wigan, which has been progressively increasing, was, in the year 1801, according to the return to parliament, 10,989, the number of houses 2236.

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The parish of Wigan contains twelve townships, in three of which, besides that in the town, are chapels of the establishment, subordinate to the mother church. Three of these townships, HAIGH, ASPINALL, and HINDLEY, are worthy notice, for the production of the finest cannel or candle coal, which is found in large blocks, as black as jet, and will bear a beautiful polish. The beds are about three feet in thickness; the veins dip one yard in twenty, and are at considerable depths, with a black bass above and below. This coal is not only an agreeable species of fuel, but is capable of being manufactured into various ornamental utensils. On an eminence in this township, about a mile north of Wigan, is

HAIGH-HALL, the ancient seat of the *Bradshaighs*, a family of high antiquity and distinction, but now extinct; from whom it descended, by marriage, to the Earl of *Balcarras*, who now resides here. This venerable mansion was built at different periods; the chapel is supposed to be coeval with the reign of Edward II. In the front are the arms of Stanley and Bradshaigh. The house contains some excellent portraits and other pictures. Adjoining to the hall is a summer-house, entirely built of cannel coal, under

**classical** scholars of the eighteenth century, and more particularly celebrated for the critical sagacity which he displayed in a variety of valuable publications. He was the youngest of twelve children of the Rev. Ralph Markland, A. M.\* vicar of Childwall, in this county, author of "The Art of Shooting Flying," and was born there in the year 1693. As the friend and cotemporary of the learned Bowyer, many interesting memorials of his life and writings are preserved in Nichols's anecdotes of that gentleman.

Upon quitting the university, Mr. Markland received a liberal proposal from Dr. Mead, to travel into France and Italy, in search of such literary treasures as appeared worthy of preservation. Some accidental occurrence, however, in the progress of this negotiation, gave offence to the natural delicacy of his feelings. Instead of travels, or any public honors, he devoted himself to a life of retirement, and twice refused the tempting offer of being elected to the Greek professorship of Cambridge. He closed his long and valuable life in the year 1776, at the village of Dorking, in Surrey, at the advanced age of eighty-three, not more admired for the depth of his learning, than beloved for the benevolence of his heart, and the primitive simplicity of his manners. His remains were interred in Dorking church, and a Latin inscription, written by his friend Dr. Heberden, (to whom he bequeathed his library and MSS.) was inscribed on his tomb †.

Four miles west of Wigan is the village of HOLLAND, or UP-HOLLAND, whence the illustrious, but ill-fated family of Holland, derived their name. This family attained the highest offices of state, with the titles of earls of Surry and Kent, and dukes of Exeter; but were as remarkable for their sufferings and miserable end.

\* Nearly allied to Abraham Markland, D. D. Prebendary of Winchester, and master of St. Cross, author of two volumes of sermons, and a variety of poetical works.

† A portrait of Mr. M. engraven at the expense of his grateful pupil, Wm. Strode, Esq. is inserted in the Rev. Owen Manning's History of the County of Surrey, Vol. I.

end. In this village was formerly a priory of Benedictines, of which nothing now remains but the church and a few walls.

About a mile and a half from Wigan was a WELL, which, when a candle was put to it, burned like brandy, and the flame continued a whole day, with heat sufficient to boil eggs, or even meat, though the water in the well remained cold \*. This well, or at least its peculiar property, is now lost.

About three miles north of Wigan is the village of BLACKRODE, at which place Mr. Whitaker fixes the Roman station, named *Coccium*, but in support of this he acknowledges, there is only "the faint retrospect of traditionary history, and the vague generalities of a winter's tale; and in this state of uncertainty the attention of the antiquarian is naturally engaged at first by the name of Castle-Croft, at the south eastern extremity of the village, by the tradition of a castle upon it, and the evident remains of ditches round it." Mr. Percival and Mr. Watson both agree with Mr. Whitaker in placing *Coccium* at this place †; but these opinions are satisfactorily refuted by the historian of Whalley, who contends that this ancient station was at Ribchester.

### LEIGH

Is a market town, situated near the eastern extremity of West-Derby Hundred, at the distance of six miles from Wigan, and five from Newton. It is a vicarage, having the chapelries of *Astley* and *Chowbent* under its ecclesiastical jurisdiction. In the 28th of Henry VI. this vicarage was appropriated by Wm. Lovell to the canons of Erdbury, who engaged that two monks of their convent should daily perform mass, for the peace of the soul of the said Lovell. The dairies round this town are famous for their cheese, which

\* Phil. Trans. No. 26 and 245.

† See *Archæologia*, Vol. I. p. 65.



which is mild and rich. A branch of the Bridgewater Canal passes by this town, and has facilitated the commerce of the place. Both the town and neighbouring hamlets abound with manufactories; and coals are abundant on the spot.

According to the official report of the population, the township of West-Leigh, as called in that work, contained 277 houses, and 1429 inhabitants; and Astleigh township, a place contiguous, contained 275 houses, and 1545 persons. North of Leigh is

**ATHERTON HALL**, a seat formerly belonging to a family of that name, is now the property of the Honorable T. Powys. The house, which was built by Gibbs, is large, and has a spacious cubical entrance hall. A plan of this mansion is given in the *Vetruvius Britannicus*. In the year 1680 a shower of Seeds occurred at this place, and excited much curiosity and controversy. By some persons it was said to be wheat from heaven; but the more rational part of society acknowledged it to be a quantity of Ivy-berries, which were supposed to have been forced into the higher regions of the air by a whirlwind, and fell at this spot.

The chapelry of **CHOWBENT** has greatly increased in houses and population within the last twenty years. Though its chapel has been properly consecrated by the Bishop of Sodor and Man, yet it is exempted from the jurisdiction of the diocese of Chester, and its patronage is vested in the proprietor of Atherton Hall. In the rebellion of 1715, Mr. Wood, a dissenting minister here, led his flock to join the royal standard; and on this occasion the important pass over the Ribble at Walton was committed to his protection. For his bravery, &c. he then obtained the title of Captain Wood. East of Leigh is

**TYLDESLEY**, a hamlet that has grown up with the thriving manufactures of this county. A family named Tyldesley was seated here as early as the reign of Henry III.; but the estate was afterwards alienated. About the middle of the sixteenth century, it again returned to Thurston Tyldesley, of Wardley, who then married Anne, the sole heiress of the Lelands of ~~Worleyes-~~

Hall\*. Of this family was Sir Thomas Tyldesley, who particularly signalized himself during the troubles of Charles the First's reign, and fell in the fight of Wigan-lane. On a pillar near Wigan is fixed a brass plate, with this inscription to perpetuate his memory:

"An high act of gratitude erected this monument, which conveys the memory of Sir Thomas Tyldesley to posterity, who served King Charles the First as lieutenant-colonel at Edgehill battle, after raising regiments of horse, foot, and dragoons, and for the desperate storming of Burton-upon-Trent, over a bridge of thirty-six arches, and received the honour of knighthood. He afterwards served in all the wars in great command; was governor of Litchfield, and followed the fortune of the crown through the three kingdoms, and never compounded with the rebels, though strongly invested; and on the 25th of August, A. D. 1650, was here slain, commanding as major-general under the Earl of Derby, to whom the grateful Alexander Rigby, Esq. was cornet; and when he was high sheriff of this county, A. D. 1679, placed this high obligation on the whole family of Tyldesleys."

Sir Thomas Tyldesley was interred in the church at Leigh, where a tomb was erected to his memory, of which only a few relics are now to be seen.

The chief property in the hamlet of Tyldesley belongs to *Thomas Johnson, Esq.* by purchase of his grandfather. When the present proprietor took possession of this estate, there were only three farms on it; but by his active and spirited exertions in establishing manufactures, it now contains a population of 1,200 persons.

#### NEWTON,

A small town, about five miles north of Warrington, and nearly eight miles south from Wigan, belongs to the rich rectory of Winwick.

\* Of this ancient seat, between Astley and Leigh, a few fragments only remain. These consist of a parlour with ornamented ceiling, the moat and bridge, ~~and~~ a dungeon, also some bits of stained glass.

Winwick\*. King Edward the Confessor was lord of it, as appears from the Domesday book; and since the Conquest, it was long possessed by the family of Langton, who have been usually styled Barons of Newton†. This Borough has returned two members to parliament, from the first year of Queen Elizabeth‡. It had once a market, which is now disused. Leland describes it in these terms: "On a brok a litel poore market, whereof Mr. Langton hath the name of his barony. Sir Perse Lee of Bradley hath his place at Bradley, in a park, ii. miles from Newton." It now consists principally of one broad street, which is only remarkable for its numerous public houses. Here is an old hall built of wood, with much painted glass still remaining in its windows. It stands on a rocky foundation; and behind it the rock is hollowed out in a very unusual manner, appearing to have had subterraneous passages, which, by removing the surface of the rock, are now laid open. Adjoining to this hall is a small rising ground, which was formerly nearly surrounded with a moat, of which a small remnant is still remaining. The tradition of the place is, that it was the residence of a king.

At a place called the Red-Bank, near Newton, a detachment of Cromwell's army, in August, 1648, defeated a party of Highlanders on their march from Preston, and the greater part of the prisoners were hanged in a field near the scene of action, which still bears the name of Gallows Croft. A large stone was fixed in the hedge, as a monument of the catastrophe. Newton contained in 1801,  
Q 2 172 houses,

\* It is frequently called Newton-in-the-Willows, perhaps from the large quantities of those trees growing near the place.

† Though the property of the town appears to be now in the family of Legh of Haydock, in this parish, and of Lyme, in Cheshire,

‡ The right of election is in the free burgesses, who are occupiers of certain houses only, about thirty-six in number. The steward of the lord of the manor, with the bailiff, are the returning officers.



172 houses, and 1,455 inhabitants. About midway between this town and Warrington, is

WINWICK, remarkable as being one of the richest Rectories in England, the presentation to which is in the gift of the Earl of Derby. The rector is lord of the manor, and the whole township, excepting one estate, is glebe land. The living is estimated at 3,000*l.* per annum. The church is an ancient pile of building, with a lofty spire, and on the south side of the former is a Latin inscription in old characters\*, intimating that this place was a favourite seat of Oswald, king of Northumberland, who, according to Camden and several other writers, was slain at Oswestry, in Shropshire. But this is not very probable, for if it be recollected that Oswald was a peaceable and religious king of Northumbria, which only extended to the river Mersey southward, and as Penda, the Pagan king of Mercia, was at war with him, and pursuing his conquests through the kingdom of the former monarch, it is not very likely that Oswald would have penetrated his enemies' territories so far as Oswestry. Indeed there is more probability in supposing that he might have sustained a defeat, and met his death on the borders of his own kingdom. Bede says, that the place where he was killed is called in the English tongue *Maserfeth*; but neither has he, nor any of his annotators, satisfactorily designated the fatal spot. Archbishop Usher, in his notes on Gildas, expresses an opinion, that *Cair-Guintguic*, one of the twenty-eight British cities, mentioned by that ancient writer, was at Winwick †; besides,

\* This inscription, according to Pennant, is in the following terms :

" Hic locus, *Oswalde* quondam tibi placuit valde ;  
*Northanumbrorum* fueras Rex, nuncque polorum  
 Regna tenes, Prato passus *Marcelde* vocato.  
 Anno milleno quingentenoque triceno,  
*Sclator* post *Christum* murum renovaverat istum :  
*Henricus Johnston* curatus erat simul hic tuuc."

† Gale's Hist. Angl. Script. Vol. I. p. 136.

besides, this parish appears to have borne formerly the name of *Macrefeld*; and the church here is dedicated to St. Oswald, king and martyr. These circumstances, jointly considered, tend to support the opinion, that Winwick, and not St. Oswestry, was the place where this good king was slain and barbarously mangled in the thirty-eighth year of his age \*. In the church at Winwick is a chantry belonging to the Legh family of Lyme-Hall, Cheshire, in whose possession are some original papers concerning the same. Among the monuments is one with a brass plate, effigies, &c. to *Sir Peter Legh* and his lady.

#### WARRINGTON,

A large, populous, thriving manufacturing town, occupies the northern bank of the river Mersey, about midway between the two great towns of Manchester and Liverpool. Some authors have contended that a Roman Station was formerly established at this place, as a guard to the ford; but no particular remains or discoveries have been made to justify this opinion †. That a Roman

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road

\* See Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons, 4to. Vol. I. p. 146. Though this respectable historian, coinciding in the common opinion, fixes on Oswestry as the place of Oswald's death.

† Mr. Whitaker, with his usual ingenuity of argument, asserts, that "the title of Warrington to the character of a Roman station, is proved by the concurrence of three roads at it: one from Condane, another from Coccium, (this, however, is only the continuation of the first road) "and a third from Mancunium." He next endeavours to define and trace the courses of those military-ways, and then unequivocally asserts, that "just upon the ford of the Mersey, was a Roman station, though equally overlooked by antiquarians, and forgotten by tradition." In support of this assertion he adduces many ingenious arguments; but failing in *proofs*, he adverts to a discovery of some oblong pieces of lead, which were found a "few miles from this place, but on the southern bank of the Mersey." However plausible the arguments, or imposing the assertions of this learned writer, we must hesitate before we admit all his deductions; for in order to secure the mind against error and falsehood,

we



road entered Lancashire from Condate, in Cheshire, is extremely probable, and traces of it have been satisfactorily defined in some places. The bridge already referred to, built by the Earl of Derby for the passage of Henry VII. crosses the river at this place. Leland describes Warrington as "a paved town of pretty bigness," with a church "at the tail end" of it, and having a "better market than Manchester." Here was an Augustine Friary, founded before 1379; but the building is entirely obliterated. A charter for a market and fairs was obtained in the reign of Edward the First, by a Sir Thomas Boteler, of Bewsey, near this town, where an ancient moated mansion still remains\*.

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we must never allow any statements to be truly historical that are not proved by demonstrative evidence, or justified by the most rational and conclusive arguments. This maxim is of peculiar importance in all antiquarian enquiries, and ought to be forcibly impressed on the attention of the juvenile topographer and historian.

\* The first person on record of this family was Robert, who held the office of Butler, or Boteler, (and thereby obtained this surname), under Ranulph de Gernons, Earl of Chester, in 1158. William, a son of the above Robert, certified in the time of King John, that he held eight knight's fees of the king *in capite* in this county. To him succeeded another William, who, in the forty-third of Henry the Third, was high sheriff of this county, and governor of the castle of Lancaster, whose lands were all seized, on his taking part with the Barons of that age. After the battle of Evesham, forty-ninth of Henry the Third, the Sheriff of Lancashire was commanded to restore his lands. In the fifth of Edward the First, he obtained the king's charter for a market every Friday at his manor of Warrington, and for a fair annually on the eve, day, and morrow after the feast of St. Andrew, and the five days ensuing. In the thirteenth of the same king he obtained another grant to change the market to Wednesday, on which day it still continues, and for another fair to continue eight days from the eve of St. Thomas the Martyr's translation. From the twenty-second to the twenty-fifth of that reign, he had summons to parliament among the Barons. The family flourished at Bewsey till the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when that estate is found to be in the possession of Robert, Earl of Leicester, by whose Will, dated the 1st of August, 1587, his executors were directed to sell all his lands, &c. in Lancashire.



The town of Warrington consists of four principal streets, which are mostly narrow, inconvenient to passengers, and unpleasant to the inhabitants; and though these are chiefly composed of shops and small houses, yet a few handsome modern buildings are interspersed. "The entrance into the town," says Mr. Pennant, "is unpromising, the streets long, narrow, ill-built, and crowded with carts and passengers; but farther on are airy, and of a good width, yet afford a striking mixture of mean buildings and handsome houses, as is the case with most trading towns that experience a sudden rise\*." The principal trade of the place consists in the manufacture and sale of *sail-cloth*, or poldavy; but some coarse linens and checks are made in the town and its vicinity. The former is chiefly composed of hemp and flax mixed, and some sorts are manufactured with flax alone. The raw materials are mostly brought from Russia, and imported into the town of Liverpool, whence to Warrington is a cheap and expeditious water carriage. Among other manufactures of this place, may be specified pin-making, glass-making, and iron-founding. "Warrington may, in some measure, be considered as a port town, the Mersey admitting, by the help of the tide, vessels of seventy or eighty tons burthen to Bank-Quay, a little below the town, where warehouses, cranes, and other conveniences for landing goods are erected. The spring-tides rise at the bridge to the height of nine feet. Upwards, the river communication extends to Manchester. Besides the parish church, here is a chapel of ease, and another chapel of the establishment in the suburb over the bridge, belonging to the parish of Groppenhall. There are also places of worship for the Roman catholics, presbyterians, anabaptists, methodists, and quakers. There is a very well endowed free-school in

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the

shire, which had been the lands of Sir Thomas Butler, and of Edward, his son, who is said to have been the last heir male of the Butlers of Bewsey.

\* Tour in Scotland, 4to. pt. I. p. 9.

the town; and a charity for educating and maintaining poor children of both sexes \*."

There being no other bridge over the Mersey between this place and Liverpool, and for many miles East of it towards Manchester, has occasioned the pass here to be a place of repeated conflict in the civil commotions of this kingdom. The most memorable event of this kind occurred in 1648, when a large body of the fugitive Scotch army, under the Duke of Hamilton, was pursued from Ribbleson-Moor; and though they made an obstinate resistance, for some hours, at this bridge, yet above 1000 were killed, and their Lieutenant-general Bayley, with 2000 soldiers, were taken prisoners. Again in 1651, General Lambert, who had commanded on the former occasion, fixed on this spot to oppose and resist the Scotch army under the young King, who was here repulsed. In the year 1745 also, the middle arches of the bridge were broken down, to check the progress of the rebels, and again restored on the termination of the insurrection.

A short distance north of Warrington is OXFORD-HALL, a seat of the Blackburne family, of whom was John Blackburne, Esq. father of the present member of parliament for this county. He died at the advanced age of ninety-six, and was much respected while living, for his many good qualities. His garden was considered an object of curiosity, and was visited by some of the most eminent botanists in the country. A catalogue of its botanical products, was published by Mr. Neal, his gardener, in 1779. Here, as Mr. Pennant observes in his tour to Scotland, the venerable owner, like another Evelyn, spent the calm evening of his life, under the flourishing plantations of his own culture. The town of Warrington, in 1801, contained 2,296 houses, and 10,567 inhabitants.

The *Warrington-Academy*, established by some respectable Dissenters, has been justly celebrated for the literary eminence of its masters and tutors; among whom the names of Enfield and Wakefield,

\* Description of the country round Manchester, 4to, p. 396.

Wakefield, will long be remembered with respect and esteem. THOMAS PERCIVAL, M. D. F. R. S. and R. M. S. was a native of this town, where he was born 1740, and died at Manchester in 1804. He lost both his parents during his infancy; and the guardianship of his early years devolved on his uncle, a learned and eminent physician of this town, who also died before his nephew had attained his tenth year. After receiving the rudiments of his education at the free grammar school, he was enrolled the first student of Warrington academy in 1757, where he continued about three years, and then removed to Edinburgh, where he studied physic for three winters. The year 1763 was spent in London for the same purpose, when, by the friendship of Hugh Lord Willoughby, of Parham, he was unanimously elected a fellow of the Royal Society. He afterwards visited Paris, and other places on the Continent, and in 1765, took his degree of M. D. at Leyden, on which occasion he published his thesis, "on the Effects of Cold on the Human Body." In 1766 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Nathaniel Basnett, Esq. and in 1767 settled at Manchester, where he soon had a very extensive practice, and his merits ensured him proportionable success, which he pursued, with universal respect, till his death. He was well known in the literary world, by his "Father's Instructions to his Children; Moral and Literary Dissertations; and Medical Ethics," besides many excellent papers in the Memoirs of the Manchester Society, of which he was one of the principal founders and ornaments. The Society have testified their unanimous respect to his memory, by placing a marble tablet over the chair which he had so many years occupied as their president. His works, with "memoirs of his life and writings," have recently been published in four volumes.

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SALFORD-HUNDRED occupies the south-eastern corner of the county, and has Yorkshire for an eastern boundary; is divided from



from Cheshire by the rivers Mersey and Tame, whilst the hundred of Blackburn abuts against its northern bounds; and the hundreds of Leyland, and West Derby, attach to the western extremity. This large district contains the great manufacturing towns of Manchester, Ashton, Rochdale, Bury, and Bolton\*; is intersected by portions of the canals known by the names Rochdale, Bridgewater, Ashton, and Bolton and Bury; besides which the river Irwell is navigable westward to the Mersey. Though most of this district is rather flat, yet on the Yorkshire side, the hills rise to considerable altitude; and the whole courses of the Irk and Irwell rivers, north of Manchester, are distinguished by high and steep banks. At the various sources of the Medlock, the grounds are bold, and the hills are lofty. A great part of this hundred is occupied by the steril mosses of Ashton, White, and Chat; besides several uncultivated tracts of moor-land. Coal-pits are numerous; and the plentiful supply of that useful fossil has tended materially to promote the establishment of trade. Every town abounds with warehouses, shops, and factories; and every village and hamlet presents an industrious and restless scene of human activity. At the period of dividing counties into hundreds, and those again into parishes, this part of Lancashire was but thinly peopled, and consequently separated into a few portions, or parochial divisions only; but as the prodigious increase of manufactures has attracted a vast augmentation of inhabitants, the original parishes have been repeatedly divided and subdivided. From this circumstance also, most of the old land proprietors have sold or let their estates, deserted their venerable and uncomfortable mansions, and sought rural retirement and picturesque beauty in other counties, where land was less valuable, and where their habitations would be less annoyed with the smothering smoke of furnaces, or the boisterous manners of the lower orders

\* Little Bolton, and Oldham, are also marked as Towns in the official reports of the population; in which work, the whole number of houses in this hundred is set down at 30,750, and persons, 177,682.

orders of society. It is a lamentable fact, that where these associate in large numbers, as in great commercial and manufacturing towns, they acquire depravity and generate vice by social confederacy; and this is likely to continue a growing evil, unless a more general system of moral instruction be adopted; to promote which, honesty and probity should be publicly encouraged, and vicious pursuits unequivocally reprobated and punished.

## MANCHESTER.

The name of this place implies the pre-existence of a Roman Station; and it has been satisfactorily proved, by the learned historian of *ancient* Manchester, that the Romans possessed an important military post on the banks of the rivers Irwell and Medlock, which streams unite their channels at this place. Though the present town offers but few attractions to the antiquary; and though such a traveller may find but little to gratify his curiosity, yet the elaborate dissertations, in 2 vols. quarto, by the Rev. Mr. Whitaker, entitled "The History of Manchester," are calculated to deceive the stranger into a belief, that here would be an ample field for the researches, and abundance of food for the appetite of the professed virtuoso and confirmed antiquary. To obviate any erroneous inferences of this nature, it may be proper to apprise the reader at once, that the present Manchester is an immense manufacturing, mercantile, and trading town, consisting of a great number of streets, lanes, alleys, and courts, which are crowdedly filled with warehouses, factories, and shops. At the extremities of the town, however, as near London, Bristol, and Birmingham, are many comfortable and handsome houses, either standing alone, or congregated in rows, places, and parades. To furnish the reader with just ideas of the place, it will be necessary to advert to its ancient history; and endeavour, in a concise manner, to display its progressive augmentation, and present state.

Respecting a British settlement here, previous to the conquest  
of

of England by the Romans, it would be futile to record and publish conjectures; and it would be equally chimerical to endeavour to ascertain the original occupation of the place by those conquerors. Mr. Whitaker, however, observes, that Agricola established a post here, called Mancunium, "in the year of Christ 79." The same writer also asserts, that "a castle was built on the site of Castle-field; and the protection of a castle constantly gave rise to a town." He proceeds to state, that "the dimensions of *Mancenion*, the British name of the place, are still" (in 1771) "visible. It filled the whole area of the present castle-field, except the low swampy part of it on the west, and was twelve acres, three roods, and ten perches in extent. Terminated by the windings of the Medlock on the south, south-east, and south-west, it was bounded on the east by a fosse, on the west by the present very lofty bank, and on the north by a long and broad ditch." This description applies to the British fortress; for after the Romans possessed it, they abridged the limits of the castrum, and, according to the same writer, reduced it from an area of "thirteen acres of our statute measure, to about five acres and ten perches." After describing many transactions, &c. which Mr. W. says *must* have taken place, he proceeds to state, that "the new erected fort, in castle-field, now became a stationary castrum of the Romans, and the Romans now settled a garrison within it. The new erected fort, in castle-field, still retained the name of the ancient fortress upon it, and Mancenion was only changed into MANCUNIUM." It will be tedious to follow our author through all the minute particularities of history, description, and critical disquisition, which he indulges in; and it may suffice to remark, that though all traces of a military station are obliterated, yet a few Roman antiquities have been found here. These serve to prove the identity of the station, and the names of the cohorts, &c. that were established in it. Besides some sepulchral urns and coins, here have been found altars and inscribed stones. One of these, with the following inscription, was discovered on removing the rubbish that obstructed "the Prætorian gateway of the Roman camp



camp in castle field." It is described in the following terms, by the learned Dr. E. Holm, of Manchester, who has supplied the characters, here printed, in Italic capitals.

CHOR. I.

FRISIAVO

N. Q. VI MVNL

M. P. XXIII.

"Probably; *Cohortis primæ Frisiaconum quæ viam munivit milium passuum viginti quatuor*; which may refer to the construction of the military road between Mancunium and Coudate; as the distance between these stations, fixed by Richard of Cirencester, in his tenth *Iter*, at twenty-three miles, measures, according to Mr. Whitaker, twenty-two English, which are nearly equivalent to twenty-three Roman miles and three quarters \*. The relic before us is of importance, as it enables us to restore the proper appellation of the cohort that garrisoned Mancunium; concerning which antiquarians have been misled, by an ambiguous contraction in the inscription at Melandra castle, and probably in that transcribed for Camden, by Dr. Dee. It is farther valuable, as it may serve to vindicate the authority of Pliny, and the purity of his text, in regard to a subject on which they have been questioned, in a work of great erudition, published by an eminent scholar of the seventeenth century †. The *Frisiabones*, or adopting the reading of Harduin's MSS. *Frisiavones* are twice mentioned by the elder Pliny; first, as inhabitants of an island situated at the mouth of the Rhine, between the Maese and the Zuyder Zee; and secondly, as a nation of Belgic Gaul ‡. The former are supposed, by Harduin, to have been a body of emigrants from the latter. The name is likewise preserved in an inscription

\* History of Manchester, I. 102.

† Vid. Cluverii German. Antiq. 561.

‡ Hist. Nat. Lib. IV. capp. 26, 31.

scription found at Rome, of which I shall insert a copy from Gruter\*.

D. M.

T. FL. VERINO.

NAT. FRISÆVONE.

VIX. AN. XX. M. VII.

T. FL. VICTOR.

EQ. SING. AVG. FRATRI.

DVLCISSIMO.

F. C.

Whether the Mancunian cohort was the same with the *Cohors I. Frixagorum* of the *Notitia*, stationed, in the decline of the empire, at *Vindobala*, is a question that must be decided by future discoveries, as no inscriptions occur at Rutchester, which is supposed, by Mr. Horsley, to coincide with that station."

The Roman station of Mancunium was connected with "seven" others, by means of military-ways, or roads. Of these Mr. Whitaker endeavours to define and describe six; one leading to Ribchester, a second to Blackrode, a third to Warrington, a fourth to Buxton, a fifth to Ilkley, in Yorkshire, and a sixth to Kinderton, in Cheshire. Besides the station already described as occupying the site of Castle-field, Mr. Whitaker contends, that it was connected with a *Castra-Æstiva*, or summer-camp, which he fixes at that part of the town where the college, &c. now stand. His account of this spot, furnishes a curious specimen of ingenious conjectural writing. He says, "this is infinitely the properest site in the vicinity of the town, that can pretend to attract the notice of the enquiring antiquarian. This is absolutely the only site in the vicinity of the station that could pretend to attract the notice of the examining Romans. In the earliest period of the Saxon history of Manchester, selected for the seat of its lord, as I shall shew hereafter, and accordingly denominated Barons-hull, and  
Barons-

\* Inscript. Antiq. DXXXII. 7.

Barons-yard, and a part of it still retaining the appellation Hunts-bank, it, and it alone, is exactly such a site as the exigencies of the Romans required. It is banked on two sides by ribs of rocks, either very steep, or absolutely perpendicular, and looks down from a very lofty summit upon the waters of the Irke, stealing directly along it on one side, and upon the stream of the Irwell breaking directly against it on the other. It spreads its area of dry compacted sand, gently leaning to the north and west; and from the lowness of the ground about it, on the south-west, west-north-west, and north-east, and from the constant ventilations of the air, by the briskness of the currents below, peculiarly feels, in the summer, a succession of refreshing breezes: and thus admirably fitted for a camp, by its formidable barriers upon two sides, and incomparably adapted for a summer-camp, by its position upon two concurrent streams, its overlooking all the low grounds of Salford and Strangeways, and commanding a distant view of the country, even as far as Howick-Moor; it had the Roman road, to Ribchester, stretching along the western side of it; it still shews the striking remains of an ancient ditch along the southern and eastern sides; and it just contains, within its limits, the requisite number of acres for a summer-camp. The area comprised within the ditch and the rivers, is exactly twelve statute-acres and an half in compass."

After describing the manner of its formation, it is added by Mr. Whitaker, such "was the pleasing, impregnable site of the summer-camp of the Romans, lined with tall impracticable precipices behind, covered with a fosse enormously deep and broad before, and insulated by the three lively currents of water around it; where, for more than eight successive centuries the public devotions of the towns have been regularly preferred to Heaven, and where, for more than twenty successive generations, the plain forefathers of the town have been regularly reposed in a place, the Romans once kept their summer residence, and enjoyed the fanning breeze of the west and north. Where the bold barons of Manchester spread out the hospitable board in a rude  
magnificence



magnificence of luxury, or displayed the instructive mimicry of war in a train of military exercises; where the fellows of the college studied silently in their respective apartments, or walked conversing in their common gallery; and where young indigence now daily receiving the judicious dole of charity, and folds his little hands in gratitude to God for it, there previously rose the spreading pavilions of the Romans, and there previously glittered the military ensigns of the Frisians\*."

Without following this sanguine and elaborate historian any farther, or dwelling longer on the Roman annals of Manchester, it may be briefly remarked, that after the Romans had possessed this station for nearly 400 years, it was re-occupied by the Britons, who soon relinquished it to the Saxons. During the dynasties of these invaders, Manchester was several times a place of military conflict, for, seated near the borders of the Northumbrian kingdom, it was likely to be stubbornly defended by its possessors, and fought for by those who sought to make conquests. It is said to have been fortified and partly rebuilt by Edward the Elder, king of the Mercians, in 920. In the next century, when the domesday book was compiled by order of William the Conqueror, mention is made of two churches as belonging to this place, St. Mary's and St. Michael's. One of the followers of the Norman invader fixed his residence here; and his name spelt *Albert de Gresley*, Gredley, Gressel, and Grelle, appears as witness to a charter to our Lady of Lancaster, in the time of William Rufus.

His son Robert resided chiefly at his barony here, but gave his mills on the river Irk to the Cistercian monks of Swineshead, in Lincolnshire; and, after attending the king in Normandy, obtained the grant of a fair at his lordship of Manchester, on St. Matthew's day, annually, and the day before and after. His great grandson Thomas, on the 14th of May, 1301, granted to his burgesses of Manchester a charter, which is said to be still extant, of the custom of the manor, and was summoned as a baron to parliament, from

\* History of Manchester, Vol. I. p. 184.



from the first to the fourth of Edward the Second. Dying without issue, John, son of Roger Delawar, succeeded to this inheritance, and chiefly resided in Baron's-Hull, or Baron's-Yard, as the site of the present college is still sometimes called. This John was summoned to parliament, as a Baron, from the first of Edward the Second to the sixteenth of Edward the Third, inclusive, and died about the twentieth of the last king's reign. His grandson, when of age, did homage to Edward the Third, and had livery of all his lands, and was with the prince at the memorable battle of Poitiers. His eldest son was summoned to parliament as a Baron from 1370 to 1398, to whom, as he died without issue, his brother Thomas, who was rector of Manchester, and in those days of priestly celibacy, consequently unmarried, succeeded in this barony. In the ninth year of Henry the Fifth, 1422, on the payment of 200 marks into the exchequer, he obtained a licence to found a collegiate church, &c. here, which he liberally endowed. The establishment was to consist of a master, or keeper, eight fellows, (of whom two were to be parish-priests), two canons, four deacons, and four choristers. The bishop of Durham and other parties authorized in the licence of foundation, granted to the first master or warden of the said college, five messuages and ten acres of land, which were parcels of the manor of Manchester, one messuage with the appurtenances, and one acre and twenty-four perches, called Baron's-Hull and Baron's-Yard, with eight acres of land in Nether Aldport, one messuage of eleven perches in Gorton-Green, and another in Heaton of the same extent. But Fuller, in his Worthies, observes on the subject, that "the endowment of this collegiate and parochial church were the glebe and tythes of the parsonage, which glebe was computed to be about 800 acres of this county measure, (about half as many more of the statute measure), besides a considerable part of the town commonly called Dean's-Gate, (a corruption of St. Dionys-Gate, to whom and to the Virgin Mary and St. George the church was formerly dedicated), now situate on the site of the glebe land belonging to the church; and the tythes of the parish arose from the

thirty-two hamlets or townships into which it is divided." At this time the founder is said to have erected the present college for the residence of the collegiate body, at the expense of 3,000l. The greater part of the church was probably completed during the life of John Huntingdon, the first warden, who was very anxious to adorn this new erection. He was president here about thirty-seven years, from 1422 to 1459, and consequently had full time to manifest his disposition and zealous perseverance. His effigy, in sacerdotal vestments, is engraven on a brass plate, in the choir near the altar, with an inscription expressive of the chief object of his zeal.

Domine, dilexi decorem domus tuæ.

As the collegiate foundation and establishment are intimately connected with the ancient history of the town, it will be best to pursue this enquiry here.

On the dissolution of the original college, in the year 1547, the house and some of the lands were sold to the Earl of Derby, who maintained several ministers to officiate in the church. On its being refounded in Queen Mary's reign, when the statutes of the first foundation were revived, most of the lands were restored; but the Earl of Derby retained the collegiate house, with some of the lands of small value. In the twentieth year of Elizabeth, 1578, it was refounded by the name of *Christ's-College*; but was once more dissolved, in consequence of some complaints exhibited against the warden, and refounded by Charles the First, by charter, bearing date the 2d of October, 1636. By this charter, the college was to consist of a warden, who was to be at least B. D. or L. L. B. and four fellows, who are to be M. A. or L. L. B. and two chaplains, to be at least A. B. with two clerks, of which one, by a recent regulation, is to be in orders, four singing men, and four choirister boys. The Bishop of Chester, for the time being, is visitor. The warden is appointed by the crown; but every other vacancy is filled up by the warden and fellows. These were again ejected by the parliament, their revenues seized, and in 1649, the door of the chapter-house and college chest were broken open by



by the soldiery under Colonel Thomas Birch, when the deeds and writings relating to the foundation were taken to London, and never returned. They were afterwards destroyed in the great fire of 1666. In 1649 the independents converted the College-house into a meeting-house. In 1642, during the siege of Manchester by the Earl of Derby, it had been used as a store-house by the troops within the town. After the death of Mr. Chetham, in 1653, it was purchased of the Earl of Derby, in pursuance of a recommendation in the will of the former, as a suitable building for the benevolent institution he then had in contemplation\*.

To return to the manor, which passed on the death of the founder of the college, 4th of Henry the Sixth, Roger Delawar, who was at the battle of Poitiers, by a second wife, had a daughter Joan, who was married to Sir Reginald West, knt. the son of Sir Thomas West. He was not only the nearest heir to the estates of Thomas, Baron of Manchester, and rector of the parish, but he was also summoned to parliament in the next year by the title of Lord Delawar, from whom the present Earl Delawar is descended. In

R 2

1579,

\* Of the various wardens of Manchester college who have been promoted to the episcopal bench, John Booth, the successor of John Huntingdon, was consecrated Bishop of Exeter in 1465, when he resigned the wardenship, and died the 5th of April, 1478; Dr. James Stanley, the sixth son of Thomas, Earl of Derby, the fourth warden, was consecrated Bishop of Ely in 1506, and held the wardenship with it until 1509; John Wolton, the tenth warden, was consecrated Bishop of Exeter, August 2d, 1597; William Chadderton, the next warden, held Chester diocese with this wardenship; Nicholas Stratford, the fifteenth warden, was consecrated Bishop of Chester, September 15, 1689, but appears to have vacated the wardenship five years before, when Dr. Wroe was appointed; Samuel Peploe, the seventeenth warden, was consecrated Bishop of Chester, April 12th, 1726; and Dr. Samuel Peploe, his son, held the wardenship from 1738 until 1781; the twelfth warden was John Dee, of whose academical honours biographers are not agreed; but he probably had a claim to the degree of doctor, because that of M. A. would not have qualified him for this preferment. His writings are but little known, though his literary claims may deserve some attention. Dr. Thomas Blackburn succeeded to the wardenship in 1798.

1579, however, the manor was sold, with all its rights and privileges, to John Lacye, a citizen of London, who resold it in 1596 for 3500*l.* to Sir Nicholas Mosley, from whom it has descended to the present Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.

But whilst so much regard was had to the liberal establishment of a religious fraternity, consisting of persons of distinguished merit, the benevolence of others has equally operated to benefit the younger classes of the community. *Hugh Oldham*, a native of Oldham, in this county, and Bishop of Exeter, who died in 1519, founded a *grammar-school* here, and endowed it with certain lands, and some corn-mills, which he had purchased at Manchester. In the year 1524 a full conveyance was made of the property of the said mills, lands, and tenements, to certain trustees for accomplishing the testator's and donor's intentions. Amongst other provisions, it is directed, that no male infant, of whatever county in the kingdom, shall be refused admission. The master and usher are to be appointed by the president of Corpus Christi College, in Oxford, and in default of nomination within a reasonable time, to devolve on the warden of Manchester College. The principal master, besides a dwelling-house, &c. has 240*l.* *per annum*; and the second master 120*l.* besides three others, who have 80*l.* a year each. This school has eight exhibitions for Oxford university, each of 25*l.* a year; and those who are entered at Brazen-Nose College, have a fair chance of some valuable exhibitions from lands in Manchester, bequeathed by the late Mr. Hulme.

The buildings of the college, or hospital, comprise a refectory, kitchen, dormitory, feoffees-room, and various other domestic apartments, besides a large collegiate library. Most of the rooms, and the whole buildings, resemble the college structures of the universities, and the library is large, with a valuable and numerous collection of books. This was established by the benevolent Mr. Chetham\*. A catalogue of the books was published in 1791, in

two

\* Of this amiably charitable man, few biographical particulars have ever been published. Hence I am induced to give place to the following memoir, which







two volumes, octavo, entitled "*Bibliotheca Chethamensis*," with an engraved portrait of the founder. The books, in this collection, now amount to upwards of fifteen thousand volumes. Among other curious MSS. are a '*Visitation of Lancashire in 1580*,' by Flower and Glover; '*Smith's ditto*, in 1599;' '*Holinsworth's Mancuniensis*;' '*Kuerdon's Collection for a History of Lancashire*;

R 3

shire;

which has been kindly communicated by the Rev. John Greswell, author of *Angelus Politianus*.

"*HUMPHREY CHETHAM*, the third son of Henry Chetham, of Crumpsal, near Manchester, esquire, was born July 10th, 1580. Fuller informs us that "this family is thought (on just ground) to descend from Sir Jeffery Chetham, of Chetham, (a man of much remark in former days) and some old writings in the hands of worshipful persons, not far remote from the place, (he adds) do evidence as much." It appears that Sir Jeffery, "in troublesome times," had incurred the king's displeasure, by which the fortunes of his family were materially injured. His posterity, however, still continued to reside near the place where the family had so long been settled, and upon the death of Henry Chetham abovementioned, James, his eldest son, succeeded to the Crumpsal estate, while George, Humphrey, and Ralph, the younger sons, embarked in the trade for which Manchester had for some time been distinguished; the chief branch of which was the manufacture of cottons. At this period Bolton was no less the principal market for fustians, which were brought thither from all parts of the surrounding country. Of these last especially, the Chethams, were the principal buyers, and the London market was chiefly supplied by them with these materials of apparel, then in almost general use throughout the nation\*. By this commerce, which was probably conducted on an extensive scale, Mr. Chetham acquired opulence, while his strict integrity, his piety, his works of charity and benevolence, secured him the respect and esteem of those around him. His chief residence was *Clayton Hall*, near Manchester, at that time surrounded by a moat, the

traces

\* So early as the days of Chaucer, Fustians appear to have been worn, even by persons of consideration, since he clothes his "Knight" in a fustian gipon or doublet.

"OF fustian he werid a gipon  
Alle besmottrid with his haburgeon."

Prolog.

shire\* ; Knyvett's Project for the Defence of England. At a short distance south of the college is the COLLEGIATE CHURCH, a large pile of building, which occupies the site of the old parish church of Manchester, and is described in the following terms by the Rev. Dr. Whitaker, in a communication to this work.

The outside being constructed of red crumbling stone, has suffered

traces of which are still easily perceived. George, his elder brother, resided at Turton, near Bolton, at the house called *Turton-Tower* †.

Fuller briefly mentions Mr. Humphrey Chetham among his "Worthies of England," (and assuredly he deserves to rank high among them) having received his information from Mr. Johnson, preacher of the Temple, and one of the feoffees named in Mr. Chetham's will. From this authority we are told that he was "a diligent reader of the scriptures, and of the works of sound divines, a respecter of such ministers as he accounted truly godly, upright, sober, discreet, and sincere. He was High Sheriff of the county of Lancaster, A. D. 1635, discharging that office with great honour, insomuch that very good gentlemen of birth and estate did wear his cloth at the assize, to testify their unfeigned affection to him, and two of them (John Hartley, of Strangeways-Hall, and H. Wrigley, esquires), of the same profession with himself, were afterwards sheriffs of the county."

The charity of Mr. Chetham was not to appear only after his death; the chief institution provided for in his will was but a completion of one which he had formed long before. The unassuming manner in which this is alluded to in his will shews him to have been free from all pride and ostentation. During his life he had "taken up and maintained fourteen poor boys of the town of Manchester, six of the town of Salford, and two of the town of Droylsden; in all twenty-two." Having never married, he thus became a father to the fatherless and destitute; and doubtless many were the children of adversity, that, during the life-time of this good man, successively found protection in his fostering and paternal benevolence. Were it not superfluous here, it might perhaps with confidence be asserted, that of all the channels in which

\* In Whitaker's History of Manchester is some account of these MSS.

† Camden says that he saw (about 1603,) "Turton-Tower, and Entwissel, neat and elegant houses, the former once the seat of the famous family of the Orrells, then of the Chethams."

*Britannia Illustrat.* Vol. II. p. 143. Fol. 1772.



suffered extremely from the operations of fire and smoke. The church-yard, from the multitude of interments, its exposure to every annoyance of a crowded town, and the neglect of railing off

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the

which charity delights to pour its streams, in none do they flow so extensively, and as it were vitally efficacious, as in that in which Mr. Chetham chose to direct these the more public overflowings of his benevolence; though at the same time it is very probable that the charity of such a man, while he lived, was not confined to this alone. By his will, bearing date December 16th, 1651, he directs that the before-mentioned number of twenty-two boys be increased to forty, by the election of another boy from the township of Droylsden, ten from Bolton-in-the-Moors, and five from Turton: bequeathing the sum of 7,000l. for the purchase of a fee-simple estate, the profits of which are to be applied to the support of this institution. The boys are to be elected, in the proportion specified, and from the six townships mentioned in the will, the children of poor, but honest parents, not illegitimate, nor diseased, lame, or blind when chosen. They are to be clothed, fed, and instructed from the age of about six to fourteen (since limited to thirteen) when they are to be bound out at the expense of the institution to some honest and useful trade.

Nearly one fourth of the boys are annually discharged at Easter, and others elected in their stead, by the feoffees, twenty-four in number, and who have invariably been gentlemen of the first respectability in the neighbourhood. The feoffees are a body corporate by charter, dated November 20th, 17th of Charles II. (A. D. 1665.)

Perhaps no institution of the kind has been more indebted to its guardians for their judicious management of its resources, and attention to its interests, than this; and they have found an ample reward for the anxiety which they have evinced for these objects, by having been enabled to enlarge the sphere of this benevolent institution, and to augment the number of boys upon the foundation to eighty.

Mr. Chetham, by his will, bequeathed also the sums of 1,000l. for the purchase of books; and 100l. for a building, as the foundation of a public library; for the augmentation of which he devises the residue of his personal estate, after the payment of certain legacies, and this is said to have amounted to more than 2,000l.

He further bequeathed the sum of 200l. to purchase godly English books, to be chained upon desks in the churches of Manchester and Bolton, and the chapels of Turton, Walsley, and Gorton.

The founder departed this life October 12th, in the 74th year of his age.

the different footpaths and projections of the building, is in a very disgusting and offensive state. Within, and on the south side, are several large chantries, one of which is the property and burial-place of the Traffords of Trafford. At the east end, and behind the altar, is the chapel of the Chethams, where the munificent founder of the hospital has a tomb. There are also some later monuments of the family, of which the marble retains very little either of its original whiteness or polish, incessant showers of corrosive soot penetrating every chink and cranny. On the north side of the north aisle is a very spacious chapel, built by Bishop Stanley, and now the property of the Earl of Derby, which, being let out for interments at a stated price, is become little better than a charnel. Beyond this is a small projecting chantry, under the founder's arch of which, and within a plain altar tomb, lies the same JAMES STANLEY, Bishop of Ely and Warden of Manchester, who died in the college. There is a small figure of him in brass, and an inscription in old English, which has been given by Mr. Bentham in his History of Ely. But the great ornaments of this church are the stalls, screens, and lattice work of the choir, finished in a great measure at the expence of this prelate\*, who, though little of a scholar or an ecclesiastic, seems to have had a munificent spirit not unworthy of his birth. His family connexion induced him to reside much at Manchester, to which he seems to have been greatly attached; for nothing less than the powerful influence of the Stanleys could have obtained for him permission to hold a commendam with the rich See of Ely, and the value of the wardenship must have been a very inconsiderable addition to his income. In richness and delicacy of execution, the canopies of these stalls exceed any thing I have seen, though perhaps in point of lightness, they lose something from the want of those tall spiring front

\* The annexed view, from a drawing by George Ormerod, Esq. who kindly presents the plate to this work, displays some of these stalls, the character of the arches and upper windows on the north side of the choir, also the flattened eastern window, with the flat wooden roof, &c.

front pinnacles, which marked the stalls of the two former canons, and a flat horizontal cornice (though much enriched) which surmounts the whole.

The town (probably the church) of Manchester was originally a place of sanctuary, and one of the eight places to which this privilege was confirmed by the statute of 32 Henry the Eighth, in 1540-1. But the privilege was transferred to Chester in the following year, as it had been found to operate to the prejudice of the wealth, credit, and good order of the place.

On the alarm created by the Spanish armada, when every town in the kingdom, or at least of the maritime counties, was called to contribute its quota of defence, Manchester furnished only thirty-eight men for arquebusiers, the same number for archers, and 144 men for bills and pikes; and in 1599, on raising men to suppress the rebellion in Ireland, the magistrates were cautioned not to send any vagabonds or disorderly persons, but men of good character, and particularly young men, who were skilled in the use of the hand-gun. In 1605, a pestilence here carried off 1000 persons; and we know little more of the general history of Manchester until 1642, when, in the dispute between Charles the First and his parliament, it took side with the latter, and the town was occupied by the county militia. In September of that year the Earl of Derby besieged it in vain, retiring, after several days, with considerable loss: the ends of the streets were then only fortified; but it was better garrisoned and defended in the course of the next year. A violent pestilence broke out here in 1645, when collections were made in all the churches of London and Westminster. The fortifications of the town were dismantled in 1652. Notwithstanding the resolute opposition of this town to King Charles the First, the coronation of Charles the Second, on the 23d of April, 1661, appears to have been honoured with particular distinction. In 1708, an act was obtained for building *St. Ann's church*, the site of which, with the square, was formerly a corn-field, and so remembered to be, by the name of Acre's Field, by an old man who died in or about the year 1780. *St. Mary's church*

was



was built by act of parliament in 1753; and in 1757, an act was obtained to exonerate the town from the obligation of grinding corn at the free-school mills. In 1776, another act was passed for widening the streets. In 1791, an act was obtained for lighting, watching, and cleansing the town, on which occasion a watch-house was established; and in 1792, the centre of the town was farther improved by taking down the Exchange.

In this account of Manchester, it will be expected that some of the public buildings be noticed; but this must necessarily be concise.

The INFIRMARY, DISPENSARY, LUNATIC HOSPITAL, and ASYLUM, are all included in one spacious building, in the highest part of the town. The foundation for the first edifice was laid in 1753, when only 250*l.* had been subscribed towards it. The plan for receiving forty patients, was afterwards extended to eighty; but 160 beds are now appropriated for the use of patients; and in 1792, a Dispensary was added, and a suitable building annexed, collections for which were made at the different places of religious worship, to the amount of more than 4,000*l.* Perhaps it should be added, that benefactions and legacies for the support of the Infirmary and Dispensary, prior to the 24th of June, 1803, amounted to more than 32,600*l.* and the annual subscriptions to more than 68,500*l.*—The Lunatic Hospital and Asylum was opened in 1766\*.

A *poor-house* also was opened in 1792, and another at Salford in 1793; in both the paupers are employed, according to their

respective ages, ability, and capacities, in the various parts of the town, in spinning, weaving, &c. and in such other occupations as they are qualified for.

afterwards, with much propriety, succeeded, has been productive of advantage to both. The PUBLIC-BATHS, which are situated at the entrance of the Infirmary Walks, consists of hot, tepid, vapour, and cold baths, to which are attached very comfortable dressing-rooms, that are regulated with the strictest order and propriety; we feel doubly called upon to express our approbation of the terms of admission, which are moderate, and the application of the profits to the support of the Infirmary. The LYING-IN HOSPITAL, at Salford, instituted in 1790, not only provides professional aid and domestic accommodation for pregnant women who are received into it, but for the delivery of poor married women at their own houses, with proper advice, and suitable medicines. The HOUSE OF RECOVERY is an appendage to the Infirmary, and intended to accommodate 100 patients, with proper offices. This originated in 1796, and is calculated for persons in contagious fevers; but persons having scarlet and epidemical fevers, in particular, are completely shut out from the rest of the house; the apartments being ventilated in the best possible manner, to lessen the predominant effluvia, and prevent the circulation of the morbid matter. The STRANGERS' FRIEND SOCIETY, instituted in 1791, distributes cloaths, beds, and blankets, and whatever may be found necessary for the comfort of poor strangers, who have been industriously sought out, when sinking under the pressure of poverty and disease; and it should not be unnoticed, that people of every religious persuasion are subscribers to it, and that the methodists, with whom it first originated, invariably exclude their own poor from its benefits. The BOROUGHREEVE'S CHARITY arises from lands and moneys, left for distribution to poor, aged, and impotent inhabitants in Manchester. These are provided with linen cloth, coats, gowns, or money, at discretion, according to their respective wants; but the lands have been lately sold for building on, and the value of that part of the property is augmented in more than a quadruple proportion. The cloth given on this occasion, is so marked as to prevent its being either pawned or sold.

Societies for the propagation of knowledge, and dissemination of useful and valuable discoveries, are numerous in Manchester.—The GRAMMAR SCHOOL has been already mentioned; besides which there are many private schools, both here and in Salford.—The LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, established in 1781, of which the late Dr. Thomas Percival, a native of Warrington, was long president, is the most noted. It has published several volumes of its memoirs, some of which have been translated into the French and German languages. The society's meetings are every Friday fortnight, from October to April, inclusive; and, on admission by ballot, each member pays an entrance of two guineas, and an annual subscription of one guinea.—The PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY was instituted in 1803, on the model of a similar society in Liverpool. Its professed object is, “to cultivate literature and science in general, Polemic politics, and Polemic divinity only excepted.”—The MANCHESTER CIRCULATING LIBRARY, instituted in 1757, is the joint property of about 370 subscribers; the price of an admission ticket being five guineas. The price of an admission and proprietary ticket, which is transferable by sale or legacy, is now five guineas, and each member pays fifteen shillings yearly.—The MANCHESTER NEW CIRCULATING LIBRARY was instituted in 1792, and is supported by an advanced sum, and annual subscription from the members. The library contains nearly 3000 volumes. A new building in Mosley Street, called the PORTICO, has been erected for a library, news-room, &c. This has been built, and its expences are defrayed by a number of proprietors, who paid thirteen guineas\* in advance, and an annual subscription of two guineas. This building is large and handsome, and contains a coffee or news-room, sixty-five feet long, by forty-five feet wide, and forty-four feet in height to the top of the dome. Besides these, there are other reading and literary societies in this town.

The

\* This sum has been since raised to twenty guineas; and when the number amounts to 400, the price of admission will be advanced to thirty guineas.



THE MANCHESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, instituted for the purpose of promoting and encouraging the useful arts and sciences of life, was established in 1767, and since that period has distributed many premiums for valuable discoveries. One object of this society cannot be too warmly recommended, nor can it be too much imitated;—that of granting premiums to out-lagers who support their families without parochial aid. Honest and good servants are also rewarded by honorary presents.

THE REPOSITORY is an institution adapted to encourage and reward industrious females. At this repository, the necessitous may send, with a ticket and price, any article of fancy-work, or useful contrivance, which is exposed for sale, and, when sold, the money is paid over to the owner, who pays one penny in a shilling for commission. This very important establishment has proved eminently serviceable to many individuals, and is entitled to liberal and careful support.

Though most of the public buildings be devoted to business and religion, yet, in so populous a place, we may justly expect to meet with some appropriated to amusement. Of these, the THEATRE is the most prominent. A new building, on a large scale, has very recently been erected, and was first opened in 1807. The present manager and proprietor is Mr. Macready, who is also proprietor of the Birmingham, and some other smaller provincial theatres.

THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS are contained in a plain building, which was erected by a subscription of 100 persons, at 50*l.* each. The first public assembly occurred in September, 1792. The ball-room is eighty-seven feet long, by thirty-four feet broad; and is decorated with three elegant pendant, and twelve mural glass chandeliers. In the tea-room is a full length *portrait* of the late LORD STRANGE, father to the present Earl of Derby. An inscription on it states, that the former nobleman procured the repeal of an act for imposing a duty on *linen-yarn*. This picture was painted by “Edward Penny, professor of painting to the Royal Academy, 1773.”

A CONCERT-

A CONCERT-ROOM was erected here in 1777, and its meetings are well supported by amateur musicians, and are generally frequented by a crowded audience.

From places of information and amusement let us turn to such as have been raised for the purposes of restraining and punishing vice. THE NEW BAILEY PRISON, in Salford, was finished in 1790, and is a large appropriate pile of building. It is constructed on Howard's plan, and was raised at the expense of the hundred of Salford, to which district it is wholly appropriated. The whole building is inclosed within a square wall of 120 yards in diameter. At the entrance is a handsome rusticated building, containing the sessions-room, wherein weekly and quarterly courts are assembled; and adjoining it are with-drawing rooms for the magistrates, counsel, jurors, witnesses, &c. The Turnkey lives on the ground floor, and behind the lodge, in the midst of a large area, is the prison, of the form of a cross, three stories high. From the centre of each story all the four wards, with the door of every cell, may be seen. No prisoner here is fettered; but, if refractory, is removed to a solitary cell. All the prisoners wear blue and red before conviction, and blue and yellow afterwards; and no person is suffered to be idle, people of all trades being constantly employed. It is under the direction of the magistrates of the division, and affords a model of management for other prisons, which cannot be too strongly recommended.

THE BARRACKS are situated in Hulme, a township in the suburbs of Manchester, and are constructed in an uniform plan, for the accommodation of dragoons.

The *civil government* of Manchester is vested in a borough-reeve, who is annually chosen; two constables, and a deputy constable; and the township of Salford is under a similar government. Freed from a corporation and the degrading slavery and cramping powers of a chartered borough, the inhabitants are never annoyed with the tantalizing contests of political elections, and every tradesman is at liberty to commence and pursue his business unmolested by arbitrary laws. For the administration of  
justice,

justice, several respectable magistrates assemble on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, weekly. Quarter sessions, also, are held four times a year; when, from press of business, the court has been sometimes kept sitting nearly a fortnight. The lord of the manor, too, holds a baronial court monthly, for the recovery of small debts; and in Salford, which is a royal demesne, is a hundred court, for the same purpose, holden under the king, by the right honourable the Earl of Sefton, once a fortnight.

BRIDGES of communication between the two towns, and more distant places, over the Irwell, are the *Old Bridge*, which was erected about the time of Edward the Third, of three arches, on which was a chapel in Leland's time, since used as a *dungeon*, but removed in 1778, when the bridge was made wider. *Black Friars' Bridge* is built of wood, though flagged with stone for foot passengers only. The *New Bridge* was erected in 1783, and its expenses defrayed by subscription shares of 40*l.* each. It is handsomely built of stone, with three arches, besides a small one left open as an acknowledgment of the Duke of Bridgewater's right to a towing path to his quay on the Salford side of the river. The subscribers, at the end of eighteen years, having reimbursed themselves by a toll on passengers of every description, with an interest of seven and a half per cent. on the original capital, not only purchased buildings, to be pulled down, at the upper end of Bridge Street, to extend the shambles, and widen the access to the bridges, but generously relinquished all future toll to the public, though, in the year preceeding it had been let for 1150*l.* per annum\*. The small stream of Irk, which passes through a part of the town, has six bridges upon it; and the Medlock, a larger current, has no fewer than nine bridges in various parts of the town. That of Oxford Street, in particular, merits much attention.

\* Only one halfpenny was paid by foot passengers, and a proportionate toll for carriages. The recollection that there were two free bridges on this river, must strikingly point out the great population of the towns; and this surrender of the rent of the tolls, sufficiently demonstrates the liberality of the proprietors.



tion. Shooter's Brook has three bridges over it, and there is one of three arches over Shude-hill Pits. Not to notice more than twenty over the different canals, the grand aqueduct of Ashton canal over Shuter's Brook, in a diagonal direction, is of singular construction, and is truly picturesque on the approach from Piccadilly. Neither must we omit the tunnel at Knot-mill, through which the Rochdale canal passes, to join the Duke of Bridgewater's below Castle-field; which tunnel passes under the street leading to Castle Quay, at each end of which are bridge-like battlements in Gaythorn Street and Castle-Field.

The conveniences for conveying goods both to the east and west, as well as to London, are almost incalculable. About forty years ago, only eight flats (vessels so called) were employed in the trade between this town and Liverpool; but now more than 120 are constantly in motion. The land-carriage also has increased, in the same period, more than in equal proportion. The canals, in like manner, are continually floating goods to Hull, &c. Waggon and carts are employed in abundance. Eighteen coaches leave Manchester daily, for London and different places, and eight others three times a week; whereas two only left this place twice a week, so late as in 1770, one of them to London, and the other to Liverpool. In 1754, the Flying Coach engaged to be in London in four days and a half; now the mail coaches constantly run it in thirty hours; and the Defiance and Telegraph coaches reached Manchester, from London, on the peace in October, 1802, in less than twenty hours.

The MANUFACTURES of Manchester may be said to constitute the very *soul* of the place, and the factories its *body*. Whilst the former give animation and spirit to the genius and energies of man, the latter are designed and executed by him to suit the progressive improvements of science, and as best adapted to the vastness of the concerns. To furnish a full and satisfactory account of all the operations and complicated parts of them would require several volumes; and the nature of this work will not allow

low many pages. A few historical memoranda, and miscellaneous notices, must therefore suffice.

In the fifth and sixth years of the reign of Edward the Sixth, an act passed for the better manufacture of *woollen* cloth, wherein the *Manchester-cottons*, as then called, and *Manchester-frizes*, are directed to be made of a proper length and breadth, which cottons were certainly then made from wool. In the year 1557, another act passed, to amend the preceding; and recites, in the same terms, the Manchester and Lancashire manufactures. Another act, for the regulation of sealing the cloth by the Queen's *Aulneger*, passed in 1565. The trade of Manchester is described, in 1650, as "not inferior to that of many cities in the kingdom, chiefly consisting in *woollen-frizes, fustians, sack-cloths, mingled stuffs, caps, inkles, tapes, points, &c.* whereby not only the better sort of men are employed, but also the very children, by their own labour, can maintain themselves. There are, besides, all kinds of foreign merchandize brought and returned, by the merchants of the town, amounting to the sum of many thousand pounds."

In a small treatise, written by Lewis Roberts, a merchant, and entitled, "The Merchant's Map of Commerce," 1641, the author states, that "the town of Manchester buys the linen yarn of the Irish, in great quantity, and, weaving it, returns the same again to Ireland to sell," (which, says Mr. Macpherson \*, might possibly and naturally give the first hint towards the Irish linen manufactures). "Neither doth her industry rest here, for they buy cotton-wool in London, that comes first from Cyprus and Smyrna †, and work the same into fustians, vermillions, dimities, &c. which they return to London, where they are sold; and from thence, not seldom, are sent into such foreign parts where the first materials may be more easily had for that manufacture."

VOL. IX.

S

Cotton

\* Annals of Commerce, Vol. II. p. 415.

† It may be inferred from this, that no considerable quantity of cotton was as yet imported from the West-India Islands.

Cotton goods, of English manufacture, appear to have been a novelty in the year 1774, when an act of parliament was passed, declaring, that stuffs made entirely of cotton spun in this kingdom, had lately been introduced, and the same were allowed to be used as a lawful and laudable manufacture. A duty of three-pence per square yard was to be paid on every piece that was printed, painted, or stained \*.

The author of a pamphlet, published in 1788 †, observes, that not above twenty years before that period, the whole annual value of the cotton manufactures of this kingdom was under 200,000*l.* and that not above 50,000 spindles were employed in spinning cotton-yarn; but in 1787, that number was calculated to have augmented to 2,000,000, and muslins were then made in British looms, which rivalled those of India. The following table, shewing the progress of the cotton manufacture for seven years, will furnish the reader with some idea of the amazing increase of this business.

| Cotton used in the Manufactures of<br>Great Britain. | Estimated value of the Cotton<br>Manufactures of Great Britain. |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5,101,920 pounds in the year 1781 .....              | £2,000,000                                                      |
| 11,206,810 .....                                     | 1782 ..... 3,900,000                                            |
| 9,546,179 .....                                      | 1783 ..... 3,200,000                                            |
| 11,280,238 .....                                     | 1784 ..... 3,950,000                                            |
| 17,992,888 .....                                     | 1785 ..... 6,000,000                                            |
| 19,151,867 .....                                     | 1786 ..... 6,500,000                                            |
| 22,600,000 .....                                     | 1787 ..... 7,500,000                                            |

A writer, who investigated the subject of the cotton manufactures in 1787, estimates the supply and expenditure of cotton in the following proportions:—

Imported

\* 14 Geo. III, ch. 72.

† Entitled, "*An important Crisis in the Calico and Muslin Manufactory in Great Britain Explained.*"



LANCASHIRE.

275

| Imported from                             | Pounds    | Worked up in                                         | Pounds.    |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| British West Indies..                     | 6,600,000 | Candlewicks.....                                     | 1,500,000  |
| French and Spanish }<br>Colonies ....     | 6,000,000 | Hosiery .....                                        | 1,500,000  |
| Dutch ditto .....                         | 1,700,000 | Cotton goods mix-<br>ed with silk, or<br>linen ..... | 2,000,000  |
| Portuguese ditto....                      | 2,500,000 |                                                      |            |
| East India, procur- }<br>ed from Ostend } | 100,000   | Fustians .....                                       | 6,000,000  |
| Smyna or Turkey ..                        | 5,700,000 | Calicoes & Muslins                                   | 11,600,000 |
| <hr/>                                     |           | <hr/>                                                |            |
| 22,600,000                                |           | 22,600,000                                           |            |

At this time, the number of water-mills, or machines, for spinning twist cotton yarn for warps, as near as intelligence could be obtained, was as follows:—

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| In Lancashire, .....             | 42  |
| Derbyshire, .....                | 22  |
| Nottinghamshire, .....           | 17  |
| Yorkshire, .....                 | 11  |
| Cheshire, .....                  | 8   |
| Staffordshire, .....             | 7   |
| Westmoreland, .....              | 5   |
| Berkshire, .....                 | 2   |
| In other parts of England, ..... | 6   |
| <hr/>                            |     |
| Flintshire, .....                | 3   |
| Pembrokeshire, .....             | 1   |
| <hr/>                            |     |
| — 119                            |     |
| <hr/>                            |     |
| In England and Wales, .....      | 123 |
| In Scotland, .....               | 19  |
| Isle of Man, .....               | 1   |
| <hr/>                            |     |
| Making together, .....           | 143 |

The whole cost of which was estimated at 715,000*l.* There were, at the same time, 550 mule-jennies, or machines of ninety spindles each, and 20,700 hand-jennies, of eighty spindles each, for spinning yarn for the shoot or weft; the cost of which, and of the auxiliary machinery, together with that of the buildings, is stated to have been at least 285,000*l.* making, together with the former sum, 1,000,000*l.* These establishments, when in full employment, were estimated to produce as much cotton yarn as could be spun by 1,000,000 persons on single wheels; and instead of diminishing the employment of the people, as was apprehended, they called out numbers from idleness to comfortable independence. At this time they were supposed to employ

| Men.    | Women. | Children. | Total.                                                              |
|---------|--------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26,000  | 31,000 | 53,000    | 110,000 in the operations of spinning;                              |
| 133,000 | 59,000 | 48,000    | 240,000 in the subsequent stages of<br>the manufacture; there being |
|         |        |           | in all                                                              |
| 159,000 | 90,000 | 101,000   | 350,000 persons employed in this most                               |

beneficial manufacture; and nearly one-half of them in the calico and muslin branches, wherein the value of the raw material is advanced, by industry and ingenuity acting upon capital and machinery, to from ten to fifty times the value of it, when purchased by the manufacturer. Such are the powers of machinery; and such are the benefits conferred upon this nation by the inventive genius, and persevering industry, of Sir Richard Arkwright.

Manchester has been long famed for its various and extensive manufactures. But the high rank it holds in the scale of commercial importance, may be attributed to the nature and extent of the improvements introduced into the cotton SPINNING trade, by which the production of all the articles essential to the manufacture of cotton goods has been facilitated, and every competition, heretofore regarded as too formidable to be successfully opposed, has been most completely borne down.

The spinning concerns, in the town and neighbourhood, are numerous,

numerous, and many of them of great magnitude, some employing from 30 to 70,000 spindles, and yielding upwards of 600,000 hanks per week, each hank measuring 840 yards, or, in the whole, 504,000,000 yards, a prodigious length to be the produce of six days labour. The improvements made for the last twenty-five years have been, in a great degree, confined to the spinning department, and those preparatory processes which the present mode of making yarn requires; and it will appear matter of wonder, when we revert to the trade in its origin, that, in so short a space, such perfection should have been attained.

Not more than half a century has elapsed since all the cotton yarn, manufactured in this country, was spun by hand, upon that well known domestic instrument, called, a One Thread Wheel: the quantity, therefore, produced at that time, must have been very limited indeed; and, from the uncertainty of the operation, must have yielded an article so uneven, and various in its fineness, as to have operated as a very material bar to the extension of the trade, in any but coarse or heavy goods: indeed no attempt was made at the manufacture of muslins, for which the Eastern world was so celebrated, until the present system of spinning was in some degree matured. The various mechanical contrivances by which the numerous processes through which cotton necessarily passes, are more accurately, as well as expeditiously performed, having effected a prodigious reduction in the price of labour, and the value of all the various sorts of goods composed, either partly or wholly, of cotton, the demand has rapidly increased; and cotton goods, of British manufacture, have found their way over the continents of Europe and America. The first successful attempt that was made to spin cotton by machinery, was by a person of the name of Hargreave, of Blackwell, in Lancashire, who constructed a machine, which he called a Jenny, and by which a single person could spin from twenty to forty threads at one time. These machines, in a short time, became very general; and upon them was produced the web or shute of which the various kinds of cotton goods were made. The warp or webb of



these goods was almost universally linen, until it was discovered that by uniting two of the threads produced by the Jenny, and twisting them together, an excellent substitute was provided for linen yarn used heretofore for warp.

The late Sir Richard Arkwright, for whom the accomplishment of this great object was reserved, after many experiments, finished his first engine in 1768, and in the following year took out a patent. He still, however, continued to study improvements; and in the year 1775, having brought his original machinery to greater perfection, and having invented machines for preparing the cotton for spinning, upon which a single thread could be spun sufficiently compact and firm to answer all the purposes of warp, he obtained a fresh patent for his new invention. Hitherto he and his partners had reaped no profit from the undertaking; but now proper buildings being erected, at the expense of 30,000*l.* and the machinery possessing the superior advantage of being put in motion by the application of power, and by which an infinite number of spindles might be incessantly employed, requiring only the *attention* of a few children to piece up the ends that may occasionally break, and thus producing, in a fiftyfold proportion to what had before been conceived practicable; the business began to be productive to the proprietors, and an object of importance to the whole nation. Manufacturers, and other men of property, now wished to participate in the benefit of Arkwright's invention; and several spinning mills were erected in various parts of the country, the proprietors of which contracted to pay him a certain annual rent for every spindle contained in their machinery. Several spinning mills, established in Lancashire, the west part of Scotland, and elsewhere, together with the general use of the jennies, (engines for spinning the woof or weft,) produced such an abridgment of labour, and improvement of the fabric, the yarn being spun upon truer principles than if done by hand, that the prices of goods were much reduced, and consequently the British manufactures of cotton goods of all kinds were greatly extended, and many thousands of people, including women, and  
children

children of both sexes, were now instructed in the various operations of the business. Four spinning mills were erected in Ireland; and two were established near Rouen, in France, under the able direction of Mr. Holker, an English manufacturer, who, with his partners, were patronized and assisted by the government. It was not long before Arkwright's machinery was even transported across the Atlantic, and a spinning mill erected in Philadelphia. Sir Richard securing, by patent, to himself the exclusive privilege of using these machines, acquired, in a little time, an immense fortune. The trade was by this means much limited; but a question arising as to the right of Sir Richard to the exclusive privilege, and the matter coming under legal investigation, it was, after long litigation, determined in the Court of King's Bench in 1785, when the issue proved favourable to the ardent wish of those who had instituted the enquiry, and the mysteries of the trade were no longer concealed from those whose genius, whose spirit, and fortunes enabled them to enter the lists, as competitors with Sir Richard himself.

He, however, continued the business after he was deprived of the monopoly, and, probably, with some advantages over his competitors, derived from his experience and established plan of conducting the business. He certainly deserved the great fortune he acquired; for the advantages he conferred upon the nation were infinitely greater than those which accrued to himself, and far more solid and durable than an hundred conquests. Instead of depriving the working poor of a livelihood by his great abridgement of labour, that very abridgement has created a vast deal of employment for more hands than were formerly engaged: and it was computed that half a million of people were, in the year 1785, employed in the cotton manufactures of Lancashire, Cheshire, Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester. That computation was perhaps exaggerated; but the numbers must have been very great, as we find by the report of the committee of the House of Commons this same year, on the business of the commercial intercourse with Ireland, that 6800 were employed by Mr. Peele, several thousands by Mr.



Smith, and numbers proportionably great by the other manufacturers of cotton. The manufacture of *calicoes*, which was begun in Lancashire in the year 1772, was now pretty generally established in several parts of England and Scotland. The manufacture of *muslins* in England was begun in the year 1781, and was rapidly increasing. In 1783 there were above a thousand looms set up in Glasgow for that most beneficial article, in which the skill and labour of the mechanic raise the raw material to twenty times the value it was of when imported.

“The rapid increase in the number of spinning engines, which took place in consequence of the expiration of Arkwright’s patent, forms a new æra, not only in manufactures and commerce, but also in the dress of both sexes. The common use of silk, if it were only to be worn while it retains its lustre, is proper only for ladies of ample fortune: and yet women of almost all ranks affected to wear it; and many of the lower classes of the middle ranks of society distressed their husbands, parents, and brothers to procure that expensive finery. Neither was a handsome cotton gown attainable by women in humble circumstances; and thence the cottons were mixed with linen yarn to reduce their price. But now cotton yarn is cheaper than linen yarn; and cotton goods are very much used in place of cambrics, lawns, and other expensive fabrics of flax; and they have almost totally superseded the silks. Women of all ranks, from the highest to the lowest, are clothed in British manufactures of cotton, from the muslin cap on the crown of the head, to the cotton stocking under the sole of the foot. The ingenuity of the calico-printers has kept pace with the ingenuity of the weavers and others concerned in the preceding stages of the manufacture, and produced patterns of printed goods, which, for elegance of drawing exceed every thing that was imported, and for durability of colour, generally stand the washing so well, as to appear fresh and new every time they are washed, and give an air of neatness and cleanliness to the wearer beyond the elegance of silk in the first freshness of its transitory lustre. But even the most elegant prints are excelled by the superior beauty and virgin  
purity



purity of the muslins, the growth and the manufacture of the British dominions\*."

From the expiration of Mr. Arkwright's patent, the spinning of yarn, and manufacture of cotton goods rapidly increased; mechanics were successfully employed to abridge labour, and no difficulty or competition presented itself of so formidable a nature as to defeat the genius and industry of those who were engaged in the trade. However favourable these gigantic strides towards unrivalled distinction may be regarded in a commercial point of view, (the establishment of extended factories, requiring the congregated numbers of men, women, and children, for the purpose of attending to the multiplied and curious processes that it was found necessary for the cotton to pass through preparatory to spinning), has certainly operated to the injury of public morals, a circumstance which the friends of humanity cannot but deplore. The cotton, as it is received in its original packages, is committed to women, or girls, who beat it with slender rods, by which the fibres are expanded, and the seeds and husks are loosened, and more distinctly seen; these are carefully picked out, and the cotton is then taken to a machine, by which it is carded. This machine consists of two or more cylinders, moving with great velocity in opposite directions. By this machine the cotton is so disposed as to be taken off in a small substance, much resembling a spider's web. This is conveyed into a can, (by a pair of rollers, fixed to the machine); in a perpetual or endless carding, after which several of these cardings are united, and frequently passed between iron rollers, by which the fibres become better arranged, and the bulk considerably reduced. Another, and similar operation called roaving, succeeds with this difference, that after the cotton has passed through these rollers, it falls into a can, open at the top, which moves upon a centre with considerable velocity, and by which the cotton becomes a soft thread, and capable of further extension, according to the fineness of the yarn required. This process

\* Macpherson's Annals of Commerce, Vol. IV.

process is succeeded by another called stretching, or roaving, upon a machine very similar to the mule, and which is the last of the preparatory processes. The *mule* upon which these roavings are spun is a curious machine, and like the Jenny when first invented, carried from 80 to 100 spindles; these have been successively increased, until the prevailing size now is 300 spindles. Power having also been found applicable to give motion to these machines, two of them are managed by one man, and three or four children, whose employment it is to lay the thread, when made, upon the spindles, and to piece up those that may break. By this arrangement, and the successful application of mechanics to this branch of business, what would, thirty years since, have required six hundred women or girls to have performed, can now be done by one man and four children!

Of the Lancashire spinners it may not be improper to mention here, that more than 400 hanks, weighing two pounds, have been drawn from four pounds of raw East India cotton, each hank measuring 840 yards, and reaching upwards of 180 miles, or nearly as far as from London to Manchester. The following calculation will shew the value of this business to the country at large, and how necessary it is to give it their encouragement and support. The number of printers is calculated at about \* 7000; and each of these employ in their works three persons, making the whole 21,000. Each printer will employ nine weavers to make the cloth he prints: now, supposing the printer to print three pieces per day, and the weaver to weave two pieces per week, the number will be 63,000. These 63,000 weavers will employ 25,000 persons in making the yarns ready for the loom. According to this calculation it appears that there are 109,000 persons dependent on these 7000 printers, so that every printer set to work will employ nearly sixteen persons in all the different branches of the cotton business, notwithstanding the great improvements in machinery

\* This calculation from the number of persons who signed the petition to parliament.

chinery of every description which has taken place. The present duty on printed calicoes is about six shillings and three-pence per piece, taking an average of the cloths, so that, supposing one printer to print three pieces per day, the revenue arising from that one printer will be 292l. 10s. per annum, and supposing the 7000 printers to be employed, will produce 2,047,500l. per annum\*.

The vast increase in the trade of this town has occasioned the erection of many new structures. Among these the **MANCHESTER-COMMERCIAL-BUILDING** is most entitled to notice. The foundation of this was laid the 20th July, 1806, and since that period the structure has been rapidly advancing. It is to be built entirely of Runcorn-stone, and is from the designs, &c. of Mr. Harrison, of Chester. The principal object of its erection is to furnish a place of public resort for the merchants and manufacturers of the place and neighbourhood, on the plan of Lloyd's Coffee-House, in London, and every article of political and commercial intelligence is to be procured for their perusal. The fund for defraying the expenditure (which is estimated at no less than 20,000l.) has been raised by the sale of shares of 50l. each.

According to the population report, printed in 1801, the town of Manchester† is divided into twenty-eight districts, which, with the united township of Salford, contained 12,826 houses, and 84,020 inhabitants, 44,590 of whom were employed in trades and manufactures.

Though the town of Manchester is not distinguished for its literary, or other eminent natives, yet the names of Byrom and Falkner may be properly ranked with what Fuller calls the *worthies* of the place.

JOHN

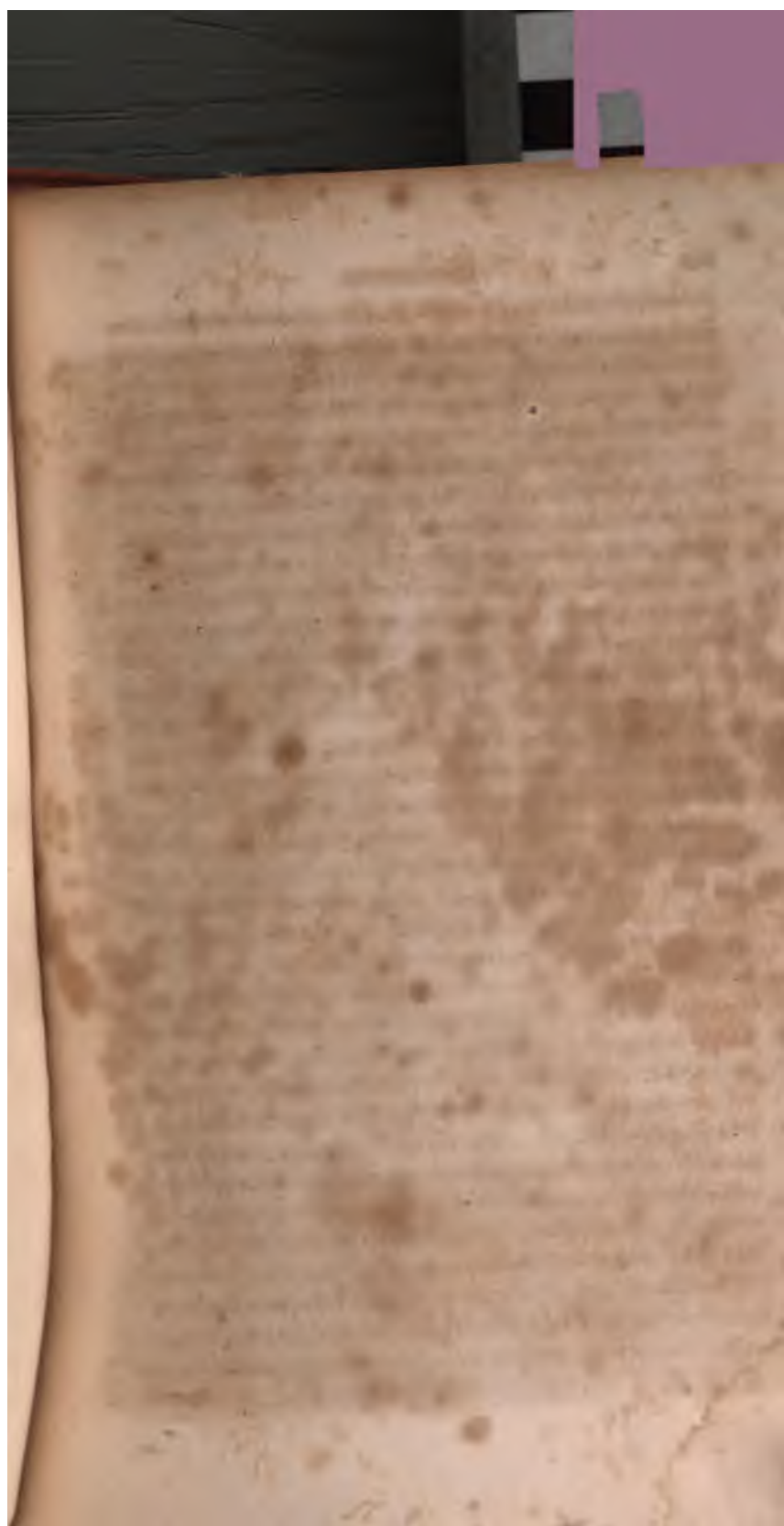
\* For some other details relating to the cotton manufacture, machinery, &c. see Vol. II. of this work.

† To such persons as are desirous of more copious information relating to this town, I can confidently recommend the "*Manchester Guide*," published in 1804, as a judicious topographical manual.



JOHN BYROM, A. M. and F. R. S. a native of *Kersall*, near Manchester, was the youngest son of Mr. Edward Byrom, of this town. After receiving a grammatical education in the country, he was sent to Merchant Taylor's school, in London, where he distinguished himself by his classical acquirements; and in 1708, in his seventeenth year, he was admitted a pensioner of Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1714 he was elected a fellow of his College, soon after which he wrote his first paper in the *Spectator*, and afterwards his admired pastoral of Colin to Phœbe. He then practised short hand, with some success, at Manchester; and on coming to London, soon acquired, by successful exertions, a comfortable competency. The celebrated Earl of Chesterfield was his pupil. In 1723 he was admitted into the Royal Society; and in No. 488 of the *Philosophical Transactions*, is his paper on the Elements of Short Hand. He published *Miscellaneous Poems*, in 2 vols. 8vo.; but those on Enthusiasm and the Immortality of the Soul, are considered as excelling in merit. He died in September, 1763, having supported, through life, a character of integrity and virtue.

THOMAS FALKNER, the son of an eminent apothecary of Manchester, was originally brought up to his father's profession. At the age of twenty he removed to London, for the sake of learning the practice of the hospitals, but soon afterwards engaged as surgeon in a vessel which was bound to the coast of Africa. His health having been severely impaired during the voyage, when the ship arrived at Buenos Ayres, he went on shore to recover it. He there received so many acts of kindness from the Jesuits, as induced him to become a member of their college; whence he was soon sent out as a missionary to visit the extreme parts of the South-American continent, where he remained six years. On his return, he was appointed physician to the college, and continued until the suppression of the order in 1767, when their property was confiscated, and he and his colleagues were sent prisoners to Cadiz. He there lingered some months in a dungeon, but at length procured his release, through the English ambassador,  
and







and in 1768 returned to London, after an absence of thirty-eight years\*. He afterwards became domestic chaplain to a gentleman of Worcestershire, where he died in 1774. Soon after this event, Mr. Pennant published "*the description of Patagonia*," written by Falkner, whose colloquial and literary narratives were suspected of bordering too much on the marvellous, and were consequently discredited; but subsequent travellers have substantiated many of his most questionable statements.

The environs of Manchester abound with old mansions, respectable villas, and handsome modern seats. In the first class is ANCOATS-HALL, a venerable house, the seat and property of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. who is Lord of the Manor of Manchester. The oldest parts of this building consist of timber and plaster; the first, disposed in various figures, form a sort of skeleton; and the latter is employed to fill up the interstices. The two upper stories overhang the ground floor, and the great windows project before the face of the building. Of a similar style and age is

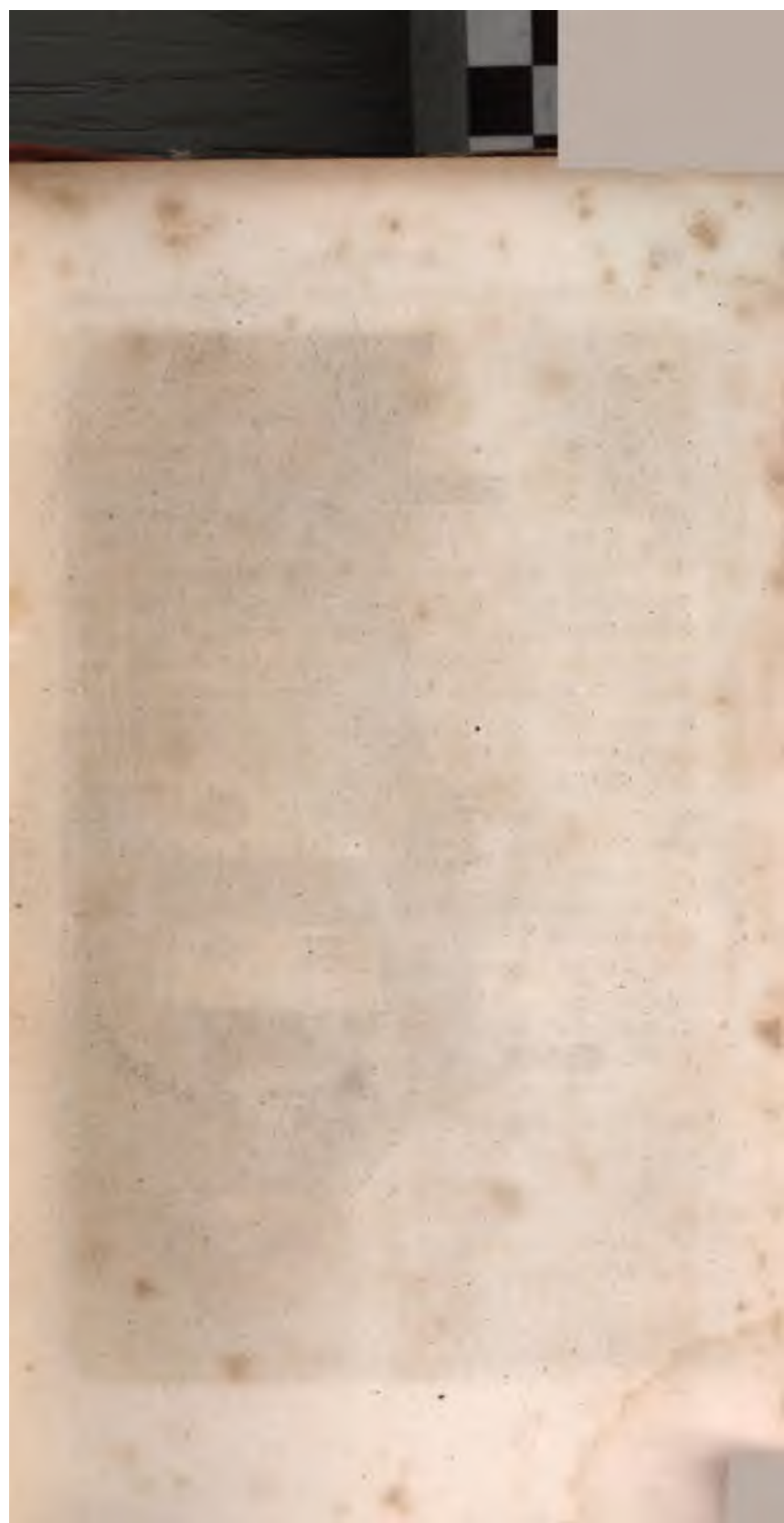
HULME-HALL, or HOLME, a little west of Manchester, a curious specimen of ancient domestic architecture. But its exterior is more romantic and picturesque than fine or beautiful; and its interior could never be well adapted for domestic comfort. It stands on the edge of a shelving bank of the Irwell, and being now let out to different poor tenants, is fast falling to decay. This manor belonged to Adam de Rossindale in the time of Edward the First, as appears by a grant from the said Adam of thirty shillings per annum, to Henry de Trafford, out of his manor of Hulme juxta Manchester for life, dated thirty-first of Edw. fil. Regis Hen. Afterwards, in the time of Henry the Sixth,

\* Pennant, in his "*Literary Life*," observes, that Falkner returned to Europe with a suit of Patagonian cloth, a cup of horn, a little pot of Chilian copper, the whole fruits of thirty-eight years' labour, which the Spaniards *humanely* left him.

Sixth, it belonged to the family of Prestwich. November 10, the first of Henry the Seventh, Thomas West, Knight, Lord de la Warr, and Dame Elizabeth his wife, grant to Blyse Prestwich, of Holme, beside Manchester, a liberty of attaching a wear for mills near Holme-bridge, by Alport, the site of the castle. It continued in the name of Prestwich till 1660, when it was purchased by Sir Edward Moseley, whose heiress, in 1684, married Sir John Bland, of Kippax. George Lloyd, Esq. bought it in 1751, and sold it, in 1764, to the late Duke of Bridgewater. The Dowager Lady Prestwich, in the civil war, encouraged her son to continue in the royal cause, saying, she had treasure to supply him with: this was supposed to be hid about Hulme; but on account of her being taken speechless in her illness, was never found. She was grandmother to Lord Dacy Morton.

ALKINGTON, the seat of *John Lever*, Esq. was the property of his uncle, *Sir Ashton Lever*, who commenced his grand and interesting museum, of natural and artificial curiosities, at this place. I have been informed, by a gentleman who was intimate with Sir Ashton, that the latter was induced to commence his collection, from having shot a *white sparrow*. As he succeeded in preserving this, he tried experiments on other birds, &c. and progressively accumulated one of the finest museums in Europe. His zeal for the subject, and the avidity with which he purchased every object of curiosity and rarity, having greatly injured his fortune, he obtained an Act of Parliament for the disposal of his museum by way of lottery \*. This was determined in 1785, previous to which it was publicly exhibited in Leicester-House, Leicester-Fields, and afterwards it was removed to Blackfriar's-Bridge, where a large building was purposely erected to receive it, and where it was considerably augmented by Mr. Parkinson, the successful holder of the ticket which conveyed the prize. This latter situation being found unfavourable for a public exhibition,

\* Sir Ashton died in 1785.







Engraved by John Wilson Croker, & designed by W. M. G. Croker.

Heaton House, at Longford and Wiltshire.

HEATON HOUSE.

hibition, the whole collection was dispersed by public auction in the year 1806.

About one mile north of Manchester is SMEDLEY-HALL, the seat and property of Major Hilton, who possesses it from the Chetham family. Near this is BROUGHTON-HALL, which was formerly the property of the *Stanley* family, and was purchased in 1699, by George Chetham, Esq. who built the *old Hall* here in 1706. His son James succeeded to the estate; but dying without issue, it passed (after the death of his sister, Ann Chetham, spinster,) to his cousin, Edward Chetham, Esq. of Smedley and Castleton, the last male descendant of this ancient family, who died a bachelor intestate in 1768, leaving two sisters; the youngest, Mary, married Samuel Clowes, Esq. of Chadwick, in this county, (great grandfather to the present possessor,) to whom, as co-heiress of her brother, this manor was allotted, with other considerable property, in 1769. The new Hall was built by the late Samuel Clowes, Esq.

TRAFFORD-HOUSE, or HALL, the seat of John Trafford, Esq. is seated on the southern bank of the river Irwell, about five miles west of Manchester. The house is a modern brick structure, cased with stucco. The Trafford family appears to have been settled in this county from the time of the conquest; and the name of Sir Ranulphus de Trafford is in the list of distinguished warriors in the time of Canute.

HEATON-HOUSE, a seat of the *Earl of Wilton*, is situated in a fine part of the county, at the distance of four miles north-east from Manchester. This estate is part of the township of Little-Heaton, and included in the parish of Prestwich. It came into the Egerton family in the reign of Queen Anne, when Sir John Egerton\* of Egerton, married Elizabeth, daughter of William, and

\* See Dugdale's Baronetage, Vol. I. p. 271, &c.



and sister and sole heiress of Edward Holland, Esq. who, with his ancestors, inherited this estate, with another at *Denton*\*, in this county, for several generations. Sir Robert de Holland, Knight, of Holland, in this county, was, by King Edward the Second, created Lord Holland, and was summoned to parliament by writ among the Barons. This family had considerable possessions in the counties of Lancaster, Northampton, and Leicestershire; and one of them built *Denton-chapel* in the seventh year of Edward the Fourth. The present noble possessor of Heaton inherits it in regular descent from his great grandfather, the above-named Sir John Egerton. The mansion here is a handsome modern structure, built of stone, from designs by the late Samuel Wyatt, Esq. It stands on a commanding situation, in the midst of a fine park, which abounds with venerable trees and numerous thriving plantations. In the centre of the south front is a semi-circular piece of architecture, of the Ionic order, surmounted with a dome; and branching from the former, are two spacious colonades, connected and terminated with two octangular pavilions. The elevation of this front is at once simple and elegant, and commands some pleasing prospects of the home scenery and distant country. The interior arrangements are comfortably disposed, and elegantly furnished. At a short distance from the house, on a high spot of ground in the park, is a circular temple, which commands very extensive views into Yorkshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Staffordshire†. The park includes an area of about five miles in circumference. This will be inclosed with a wall, and a new Doric Lodge is now building.

PRESTWICH, north of Manchester, is a large parish, which embraces

\* At this place is the old family mansion, still standing, but now in the occupation of a farmer.

† The annexed print will illustrate the preceding description, as the principle front of the house, with the temple, and the park-scenery, are all represented in this small view.



embraces an area of about fifteen miles in length, by three in breadth. This, with Oldham, constitutes one Rectory, under which are seven chapelries.

### OLDHAM,

Though recently advanced to a market town, is subordinate to the parish of Prestwich; but has a church, a chapel of the establishment, and some dissenting meeting-houses. This town is built on high ground, on a branch of the river Medlock, near its source; and the river Irk also commences its channel near this spot. The peculiar utility of these streams in carrying on the machinery, &c. of manufactories, has occasioned the erection of many; and an immense number of these, with connected houses, have been erected in this part of the county within the last twenty years. Another inducement to settlers, is the abundance of coal that is easily and cheaply obtained here. A free-school was founded here by *James Asheton*, Esq. of Chaderton. According to the population report, this town contained, in 1801, 1231 houses, and 12,024 inhabitants. About two miles north of Oldham is

ROYTON, a chapelry to Prestwich, abounding with manufactures and coal-mines. In this township is ROYTON-HALL, the seat of *Joseph Pickford*, Esq. but formerly belonging to the Byron family, who had considerable landed property here. The house is pleasantly seated in a deep valley, surrounded by high hills. In the house is a circular stone stair-case, remarkable for its solidity and strength.

CHADERTON-HALL, the seat of *Sir Watts Horton*, Bart. is a modern brick building, seated in a part of the country which is distinguished for its bold inequality of surface. The park, from this circumstance, abounds with picturesque scenery; and imme-

diately contiguous to the house are some fine pleasure grounds, with shrubberies, &c. The manors of Chaderton and Fox-Denton belonged to Geoffrey, second son of Richard de Trafford, in the time of Henry the Third.

### MIDDLETON

Having been gradually increasing in size and population for some years, was constituted a town in the year 1791, when a grant was obtained from the crown for holding a weekly market on Friday, and three annual fairs. The manor, and chief landed property of the place belongs to *Lord Suffield*, who obtained them in marriage with Mary, eldest daughter and coheir of Sir Ralph Asheton, Bart \*. The present possessor has erected a market-place, with shambles, also, warehouses, &c. in this town. The police is governed by two constables, who are annually chosen at the court-leet; and the parish, which contains seven or eight hamlets, is a rectory. In the church, a venerable pile of building, are deposited several of the Asheton† family, who for many centuries resided in this parish. In the church windows are several shields, with other subjects of painted glass. The side ailes to the church appear to have been built in 1554. They are embattled; and under the embrasures are shields with devices. A carved screen, of seven compartments, divides the chancel from the choir, on which are shields with the armorial bearings of the Ashetons, Ratcliffes,

\* This gentleman left two daughters, the youngest of whom married the present Earl of Wilton.

† Of this family was *William Asheton*, B. D. who was the last male heir, and who was rector of Prestwich in 1727, and at the same time held that of *Carleton*, in the county of Lincoln. This singular privilege was enjoyed by licence from Charles the Second, who was induced to grant his royal dispensation at the intreaty of Colonel John Asheton, who was in particular favour with the monarch.

cliffes, Grosvenors, and Stanleys. Here is a free *Grammar-School*, founded by Doctor *Alexander Nowel*\*, who was dean of St. Paul's, and principal of Brazen-Nose-College, Oxford, in 1572. This is now a respectable establishment, and often contains between 150 and 200 scholars. The cotton manufacture is carried on here in all its different processes; and the printing and bleaching works are on a large scale. Here is also a considerable twist manufactory. This township contained, in 1801, 624 houses, and 3265 inhabitants.

## BURY,

About nine miles to the north of Manchester, has experienced, in an eminent degree, the effects of the manufactures which have been introduced, on so extensive a scale, into this county. The river Irwell runs close along the west side of the town, and the Roch is only about a mile from it on the east. These, about two miles below the town, unite their streams. In the time of Leland, it is described as "a poor market. There is a ruin of a castle by the parish church in the town. It longed, with the town, some time to the Pilkintons, now to the Earl of Derby. Yerne sometime made about it." The memory of two castles, in or near the town, has been traditionally preserved. One of these was in a field called *Castle-Croft*, on the west side of the town; though there are no remains of ancient buildings, parts of the foundation walls have been often dug up in the adjacent gardens. This site was calculated for a fortress; and on the north the old course of the river seems to have passed close by the hill on which it was situated. The other castle, or entrenchment, was at Walmsley, about two miles north, on the road towards Haslingden.

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\* This worthy divine wrote several tracts against popery; and was author of two catechisms, one of which is written in Greek, Latin, and Hebrew. He collected many of the ancient MSS. now belonging to the Cotton Library, British Museum. A portrait of him is preserved in Brazen-Nose-College.



The cotton manufactures of this town and its vicinity are carried on to an almost incredible extent; and on the rivers and brooks in the parish, which is very extensive, are many factories for carding and spinning both cotton and sheep's wool, and for fulling woollen cloth. The different inventions and improvements in machinery are astonishing. Amongst others, is a machine made by Mr. Robert Kay, son of the late Mr. John Kay, who invented the wheel, or fly shuttle, for making several cards at once. It not only straightens the wire from the ring, but cuts it in lengths, staples it, turns it into teeth, and forms the holes in the leather. It also puts the teeth in, row after row, until the cards are finished. All this is done, very easily and expeditiously, at one operation of the machine, by a person turning a shaft, who neither touches the wire nor leather.

The very capital manufacturing and printing works of Sir Robert Peel, Bart. and Co. on the banks of the Irwell, in the valley beneath Castle-Croft, have been of essential benefit to the town. Large reservoirs of water, for bleaching and other processes, are formed and filled from the river. A separate reservoir is supplied by a spring, for washing the pieces when the river is muddied by floods. Printing is executed here, and at their other extensive works, both on the Irwell and on the Roch, in the most improved methods; but some are confined to carding, slubbing, and spinning cotton, others to washing the cottons with water-wheels of quick velocity, which can be instantly stopped to take out and put in goods, and at others are performed the operations of boiling and bleaching. The canal from this town to Manchester commences at the works, and greatly facilitates the conveyance of raw materials, and the return of the manufactured goods.

The country about Bury, especially towards Haslingden and the north parts, is finely diversified with hills and vallies; the latter containing many winding rivulets, of the most important advantage for working the various factories which every where abound in the neighbourhood. The roads about it are also excellent, the materials being both plentiful and durable.

Bury

Bury is a large and extensive parish, and consists of several townships, of which, including the town, Walmesley, Heaps, and Elton, are usually called the lordship of Bury. These are mostly held by lease under the Earl of Derby; and Tottington, higher and lower End, are considered as the royal manor of Tottington. The church has been lately rebuilt, in a very handsome manner\*; besides which the parish contains three chapels of ease, at Holcombe, Edenfield, and Heywood. One half of the town is the rector's glebe, and the other is held under lease from the Earl of Derby. By an Act of Parliament of 1764, the rector is empowered to grant building leases for ninety-nine years, with the privilege of renewal at any intermediate period. The town also contains a chapel for the establishment; and the Methodists, Presbyterians, and Independants, as in most populous and manufacturing towns, have places of worship here. A handsome free school for boys, with two masters, who have each a good house, with comfortable salaries, and a charity school for boys and girls, have been established here. The number of families in Bury, in 1773, was 464, and the inhabitants 2090; but in 1801 they amounted to 1400 families, who occupied 1341 houses, and the inhabitants had increased to 7072. At the north end of the town is CHAMBER-HALL, the seat of *Sir Robert Peel*, Bart. a gentleman who has particularly distinguished himself, by his active zeal in promoting the cotton manufactures.

#### BOLTON, OR BOLTON-LE-MOORS,

So called to distinguish it from some other places of the same name in this county and in Yorkshire, is a large thriving manufacturing town; and it is traditionally asserted, that the cotton ma-

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nufacturing

\* On pulling down the old church, in 1776, the workmen uncovered a piece of timber, called a pan, on which was cut DCLXXV. There was no appearance of an M before the D.



manufacturing machinery originated here\*. Leland remarked, in the time of Henry the Eighth, that the market at this place "stondeth most by cottons and course yarne. Divers villages in the mores about *Bolton* do make cottons. Nother the site nor ground abowte *Bolton* is so good as it is abowt *Byri*. (*Bury*.) They burne at *Bolton* sum canale, but more *Se cole*, of the wich the pittes be not far of. They burne turfe also†." These vague notices are curious, though not completely satisfactory. According to tradition, some Flemings settled in *Bolton* in the year 1569 or 1570, and established a novel species of business here. Soon after the revocation of the edict of Nantz, A. D. 1685, some French protestants settled in this town and neighbourhood. Again, in the reign of Queen Anne, about the year 1709, some poor Palatine weavers carried on their professions here. Some large *wooden-shoes*, or *sabbots*, said to have belonged to these men, were preserved as objects of curiosity at *Anderton*, in the house of Alexander Shaw, Esq. From the kind communications of John Pilkington, and Samuel Oldknow, Esquires, I am enabled to record a few memorable events and circumstances respecting the manufactures of this place and its neighbourhood. What were called *cotton goods*, previous to the invention of the late Sir Richard Arkwright, were chiefly composed of Irish, *Hamburgh*, or *Bremen linen yarn warps*, and cotton *weft*. Counterpanes, velvets, quiltings, *India-jeans*, ribs, some thicksets, and some strong jeans, were, however, then made solely of cotton. The warps of corded dimities were made of cotton and linen mixed. Cotton velvets were *first* made by Jeremiah Clarke in 1756; and  
cotton-

\* The first machines, called *Mules*, or "*Hall-in-the-Wood-Wheels*," from being made at a place named *Hall*, situated in a wood a little north of *Bolton*, were invented by a poor weaver of the name of Samuel Crompton, who resided at that place. As a reward for his invention, and as an inducement for him to make it public, the manufacturers subscribed, and made him a present of 100*l*.

† Itinerary, Vol. VII, fo. 57.



cotton-quiltings by Joseph Shaw, of Bolton, in 1763. British *muslins* were first manufactured at Anderton, in this county, in 1764. At this period Mr. Joseph Shaw manufactured *plain*, *striped*, and *spotted muslins*, and supplied his looms with yarns spun on the old single spindle hand wheels. But he could not get a quantity sufficiently cheap to cope with the East India Company's muslins, which he had to meet in the home market, and was under the necessity of abandoning the pursuit, without being rewarded for his meritorious labours.

In the year 1782, Mr. Samuel Oldknow commenced the manufacture of British muslins at *Anderton*, on his native soil. At that time Sir Richard Arkwright's fine yarn, and other roller-drawn yarns, were become tolerably plentiful, and had induced Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, of Bolton, Sir Richard Arkwright, and others, to begin to make this thin and delicate fabric: but it is generally admitted, that Mr. Oldknow was the first that produced the *Balasore handkerchiefs*, the *jaconot* and *japaned muslins*, in the style of India; and was the first person who realized 10,000*l.* by the manufactures of British muslins.

"In the neighbourhood of Bolton, *bleaching* of the very best quality in the kingdom is performed; and of late has been introduced, by M. Vallete, (an ingenious Frenchman,) a more expeditious mode of bleaching, so much, that a piece of calico which would have required, by the customary process, three weeks in the most favorable season, may now be rendered perfectly white in the space of one hour, and that, as it is said, without the least injury sustained by the cloth\*."

Previous to the present war with France, an Act of Parliament was obtained for the sale of a large waste piece of ground, called Bolton-Moor, for the purpose of building on it. An account of this sale will show the value of land in the district. The moor consisted of about 250 acres; and after five Lords of Manors had been satisfied for their respective claims, the land was divided into

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lots,

\* Holts' Agricultural Survey, 2vo. p. 214.

lots, and sold by auction, for the sum of 2632l. per annum, beside 10l. per acre, which was to be paid down at the time of sale. This sum, after paying for the necessary roads, has been appropriated to the improvement of the town, and towards the poor's rates.

The principal streets of Bolton unite at the market-place, and two of them are each nearly a mile in length. From this place to Manchester, where most of its manufactured goods are sent, is a *Canal*, a branch of which also communicates with Bury. On this canal are twelve locks, and three aqueduct bridges. The latter are at the respective heights of ten, sixteen, and twenty yards above the bed of the river, which pursues the same course through a narrow, picturesque vale. In the year 1773, the number of houses in Great-Bolton was 946, and of inhabitants 4568. Little-Bolton at the same time contained 232 houses, and 771 inhabitants. In 1801, Great-Bolton contained 12,549 inhabitants, and 2,510 houses. At the same time Little-Bolton contained 966 houses, and 4,867 inhabitants.

The parish church of Bolton is only remarkable for having in its windows the shields of Chetham and Bridgeman. It is situate in the part of the town called Great-Bolton, besides which there is a chapel of ease at Little-Bolton. Several meeting-houses, for dissenters of various denominations, have been also erected in the town. Here is likewise a good free school, which had for its master the noted Mr. Ainsworth, whose name will be long revered by classical characters, for his laborious and intelligent Latin Dictionary. "In the Sunday-schools of the methodists," says Dr. Aiken, "upwards of 1000 children are instructed by teachers without pay." Bolton has a weekly market on Monday, and two annual fairs. The police is under the cognizance of two constables, assisted by the magistrates of the division, or county.

About two miles to the north-west of Bolton is SMITHILLS-HALL, originally the property of the Ratcliffe family, but passed by marriage to a younger branch of the Bartons of Barton and Holm,



Holm. It was afterwards the property of the Byroms; but was sold, a few years ago, to Mr. Ainsworth, a bleacher in the neighbourhood. It is situated in a wood, above a small rocky glen, and is built in the form of a quadrangle, with entrances under gateways from the north and west sides. It was originally built of timber and plaster, and a clumsy open gallery of timber now runs round the second story of the interior. The east front is somewhat more decorated, and of stone, which, from the bow of the chapel and recess in the dining-room, has rather an elegant appearance. Both the chapel and hall windows contain some painted glass; and the latter is wainscotted all round, from the ceiling to the floor. The middle row of pannels is charged with carved devices of names, heads of kings, crests, knots, &c. In the windows of the kitchen, and on the wainscot, are the monograms of A, with a *bar* and a *tun*, or cask, said to allude to Sir *Andrew Barton*, a noted pirate mentioned in Percy's ballads; but the pedigrees of the Radcliffes and Bartons, of Smithills, rather tend to prove that the house was built, or greatly altered, by Andrew Barton, who lived about the time of Henry the Seventh or Eighth; and the crest of the oak branch, which has been supposed to belong to the Fauconbergs, must have been the badge of the Smithills branch of the family of Ratcliffe, as it does not appear by this pedigree ever to have belonged to the Fauconbergs\*.

In the parish of Bolton is **TURTON-TOWER**, now attached to a farm-house, and consisting of four stories, with an embattled parapet. Here is some ancient armour. This estate belonged to *George Chetham*, Esq. who was high sheriff of the county in 1660; and his successor, Samuel Chetham, Esq. procured the Queen's bounty for the chapel here in 1717.

#### LOSTOCK-

\* This pedigree goes back to the Ratcliffes, of Smithills, six descents anterior to John Barton, of Smithills, who lived in the time of Henry the Sixth.



LOSTOCK-HALL, about three miles west of Bolton, is an ancient mansion, which, with the estate, belonged to the Andertons, but passed, by a female branch, to the Blundells of Ince. The house is formed of wooden beams and plaster; and over the entrance door are the initials of the persons who lived here, with the date when it was built, <sup>A.D.</sup><sub>C.D.</sub> 1563. Most of the rooms are wainscotted, with massy pannels. The gateway is of stone, and resembles the style of the schools at Oxford. Over the highest bay-window are the royal arms, with the date 1590.

### ROCHDALE

Is a parish of great extent, and crowded population. It measures eleven miles from north to south, and nine from east to west; and according to a statement in "the Description of the Country round Manchester," the inhabitants are estimated "at 50,000, of which about 10,000 are resident in the town." In the official report of the population, Rochdale is not *named*, but I presume it is either included in Castleton, or in what is there termed the "*town of Spotland*." This comprehends Failinge and Healy, Chadwick, Catley-Lane, and Woolnstenholme, also Whitworth and Brandwood, all of which places contained 1,795 houses, and 9,031 inhabitants. Rochdale parish includes the townships of Hundersfield, Spotland, Butterworth, and Castleton, the two last of which are separately noticed in the population report, and their inhabitants numbered at 9,390, whence it is presumed that there must be some error in that enumeration, respecting the number of persons in this parish; or otherwise the population of the whole amounted to 18,421 persons.

The vicarage of Rochdale is said to be of superior value to any other in the kingdom; though in the reign of Henry the Eighth, it was estimated at only 11l. 4s. 9½d. The present vicarial dues arise from lands and houses\*, and the presentation is in the Archbishop

\* Thomas Wray, D. D. soon after obtaining possession of this vicarage, about A. D. 1762, procured an Act of Parliament (for which, says Dr. Whitaker,

bishop of Canterbury, to whom the tythes belong. This living formerly appertained to Whalley-Abbey; and coming to the crown at the dissolution, was granted by the King, 31st of August, 1537, to Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury, in exchange for the manor and park of Mayfield. Nine chapels of ease are subordinate to the church of Rochdale, one in the town, and one at each of the following places; Littleborough, Milnrow, Todmorden, Whitworth, Friermeer, Lydyate, Saddleworth\*, and Dobcross.

The original town of Rochdale was entirely within the township of Castleton, where an ancient *castle* formerly reared its embattled walls, and where still remains a lofty artificial mound of earth, called the Keep. Dr. Whitaker supposes that a castle was erected here before the Roman conquest, as in a record †, apparently part of an inquisition after the death of Thomas of Lancaster, "it is described as the site of an ancient castle, long since gone to decay." The parish of Rochdale, as distinct from Saddleworth,

Whitaker, his successors, as well as the town, are much indebted to his memory), to enable the vicar for the time being to grant building leases for ninety-nine years.

\* "The chapel of *Saddleworth*, the only one upon the old foundation within this parish, was erected by *William de Stapleton*, Lord of that remote and barbarous tract, (in Yorkshire,) in the end of the twelfth, or beginning of the thirteenth century; for by charter, S. D. Geoffrey (the elder), dean of Whalley, and the vicar, that is on the first foundation, of said Cedde in Rachedam, with the consent of Roger de Lacy, patron (advocati) of the said church, gave licence to the said Stapleton to cause divine offices to be celebrated in his chapel at Saddleworth."—History of Whalley, p. 433.

† This is in the Harleian collection in the British Museum, and states, "Rachedale ab antiquo vocato Racheham est quedam patria continens in longum XII mil et amplius et in lat X mil. et amplius et valet annuatim ultra Reprisas IIII E et continet in se IIII Villas divitatas et multas Hamblettas cum multis magnis vastis in eisdem villis et Hamblettis vid. Honorisfeld, Spottland, Buckworth (sic) et Castleton."



worth, occupies two vallies, formed by the *Roch* and *Spodden* rivers, "with the great inclined planes and collateral gullies sloping down to each." Archbishop *Parker*\* founded a free *grammar-school* in this town, by indenture†, bearing date January 1st, in the seventh year of Queen Elizabeth's reign. The ground on which the school-house stands was given by the Rev. Richard Midgley, vicar. Since the first foundation, the revenues of the school have been increased by additional benefactions; but, according to Dr. Whitaker, the master's salary is now only 30*l.* a year. Another free-school was established here by Mrs. Hardman; and since the year 1784, sixteen sunday-schools have been formed. Besides the parish church and chapels of the establishment, here is a meeting-house of the presbyterians, another belonging to the baptists, and a very large one appropriated to the methodists. Here are two weekly markets and three annual fairs. The parish abounds with slate, stone, and coal; and the manufacture of baize, flannels, kerseys, coatings, and clothis, is carried on to a considerable extent.

In the parish church was interred, November 25, 1800, *Dr. Mathew Young*, Bishop of Clonfert, in Ireland, who was induced to reside at Whitworth, in this neighbourhood, in order to obtain the advice and medicines of a person who professed to cure cancers, and indeed almost every human malady‡. But though the inspired

\* See Strype's *Life of Archbishop Parker*, p. 182.

† The original deed, with several MSS. by the Archbishop, are deposited in the library of Corpus Christi Coll. Cambridge.

‡ This populous part of Lancashire is noted for a class of persons who sometimes rapidly acquire fame and fortune by professing to cure certain disorders of the frame and constitution by the application of some secret nostrum. If this should accidentally effect *one* cure, or if nature performs it during the administration of the prescription, the babbling tongue of wonder circulates the tale, and produces an astonishing celebrity for the medicine. Thousands  
flock



inspired son of Esculapius had accidentally succeeded in some cases, he failed in the present.

STUBLEY was long the residence of the original family of the *Holts*, a memorable name in these parts. The house appears to have been built by Robert Holt, Esq. in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and consists of a centre with two wings. "It contains within much carving in wood, particularly a rich and beautiful screen between the hall and parlour, with a number of crests, cyphers, and cognizances belonging to the *Holts*, and other neighbouring families. It was abandoned for the warmer and more fertile situation of Cartleton, by Robert Holt, Esq. about the year 1640 \*."

On

flock around the self-created doctor, and confidently swallow any harmless, or powerful composition he may recommend. Among such a concourse a few must acquire health and soundness, and though the prescription did not in the least contribute towards this, yet the whole cure is ascribed to the medicine, and credulity both confides in, and loudly extols its unexceptionable virtues. During my stay in Manchester, I heard of three instances where an illiterate old woman, an ignorant farrier, and an impudent weaver all assumed superior knowledge in anatomy and medicine, and arrogantly assumed the profession of physician or surgeon; but what was more surprising, each of these was consulted by a numerous flock of patients, among whom were some persons of property. Since therefore credulity and folly are so prevalent, it is not to be wondered at that knavery and cunning should occasionally prey upon them. Though the superstitious fears of ghosts and enchantments have nearly subsided, a superstitious respect to quack medicines and pompous nostrums, occupies the place in the minds of the illiterate; and it is difficult to say which be the most absurd and degrading folly of the two. In the chapelry of Whitworth lived two persons known by the name of the *Whitworth Doctors*, whose fame at one time spread all over the neighbourhood, and even to the metropolis and other parts of the kingdom. "They were chiefly noted for setting broken and dislocated bones, and for the cure of cancerous and other tumours by caustics, properly termed by themselves *keen*. Not less than one hundred persons annually take lodgings in Whitworth to be under their care, besides the great resort of occasional visitants. With very reasonable charges they have realized handsome fortunes, which they enjoy with the general esteem of their neighbours."

*Description of the Country round Manchester*, p. 250.

\* Whitaker's History of Whalley, p. 436.

On the bank of the *Beil* is the ancient house of BELFIELD, formerly part of the possessions of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and, after the dissolution of that order, the property of the Butterworths, of whom Alexander Butterworth, Esq. dying in extreme old age, devised this, and other considerable estates to *Richard Townley*, son of a younger son of Royle Townley. In the township of Butterworth is CLEGG-HALL, a strong square building, apparently of James the First's time. It was built by the Ashtons, of Little-Clegg, and is the only estate within the parish which still continues in the local family name.

FOXHOLES, to the north of Rochdale, is the seat of *John Entwisle*, Esq. who inherits it under the Will of his kinsman, Robert Entwisle, Esq. The present mansion was built by Mr. Entwisle, on the site of the old hall, in 1792. The family of Entwisle are of great antiquity in this county, and were originally seated at Entwissell, which Camden styles "a neat and elegant house, formerly belonging to an honourable family of that name." They derive their descent from Sir Bertyne or Berthram Entwissell, Viscount and Baron of Brybeke, in Normandy, who, for his eminent services, was knighted at the battle of Agincourt. He was slain, in support of Henry the Sixth, at one of the battles of St. Albans. His family quitted their paternal estate in the sixteenth century, and fixed their residence at Foxholes.

Rochdale and its vicinity are considered as the centre of that provincial phraseology, known by the name of the *Lancashire-Dialect*, and which has acquired some literary notoriety by the humorous writings of *Tim Bobbin*. Of this quaintly jocose author, whose name was JOHN COLLIER, a few particulars will not be irrelevant. He was born near Warrington, and was first intended by his father for the church; but instead of that he was placed with a Dutch-loom-weaver. Disliking this sedentary life, he commenced itinerant school-master, and taught both by day and night. After wandering about precariously for some time, he obtained an  
humble



humble settlement at a free-school at *Milnrow*, near Rochdale, where himself and Mr. Pearson, a curate, jointly shared the salary of twenty pounds a year. Here he fancied himself independent, and this golden dream was almost verified in *his* imagination on the death of his partner, as Tim was then nominated sole master. He had previously kept an evening school, which was now relinquished; though from motives of saving prudence, he employed the Christmas and Whitsuntide vacations in teaching at Oldham, and some other places in the vicinity. He also began to study music and drawing, and pursued these fascinating arts with such avidity and zeal, that he was soon enabled to instruct others in both. These acquirements not only proved amusing, but lucrative; and having succeeded in delineating some caricature heads, figures, and groups, he sold a great number of them to travellers, and even to the Liverpool merchants. Early in life he discovered some poetical talents, or rather an easy habit for humorous rhyme, with which he annoyed a few dull blockheads and arrogant coxcombs. Though these provoked the enmity of some, they procured him the friendship of others. The first regular poetical composition which he published, was styled the *Blackbird*, and intended to ridicule a Lancashire justice, who was more known for political zeal and ill-timed loyalty, than good sense and discretion. "In point of easy, regular versification, perhaps this was his best specimen, and it also exhibited some strokes of true humour." Marrying about this time, his domestic cares and expences increased, and to provide for the latter, he was obliged to be additionally industrious. Besides the duties of his school and teaching music, he repeatedly laboured at the easel, and painted altar-pieces for chapels, and signs for public-houses. Having a retentive memory, and associating a good deal with the unsophisticated natives of the county, he had attended to, and treasured up all the local terms and phrases, with the vulgar and obsolete words used in common discourse by the lower classes. These at length he committed to the press in the form of dialogue, and published under the title of "*Tim Bobbin's Lancashire Dialect*." Its novelty and humour

soon



soon excited public curiosity, and not only rendered a second edition necessary, but provoked some mercenary publishers to pirate it. While the former gratified the moderate ambition of the author, the latter provoked his indignation and anger, and made him exclaim "that he did not believe there was *one honest* printer in Lancashire." In drawing up a preface to a subsequent edition, he justly reproved and satirised those insidious offenders. His last literary production was entitled "Curious Remarks on the History of Manchester." This small pamphlet of sixty-five pages, contains some sharp strictures on that learned and desultory book; and the author concludes by saying that the style of that work "appears to him to be affected, of a mongrel-py'd kind, produced by the dregs of Ossian, and the lofty fustian of a proud Oxonian."

Mr. Collier died in the possession of his mental powers, at the advanced age of eighty, leaving three sons and two daughters.

ECCLES PARISH, to the west of Manchester, comprehends an area of about nine miles from east to west, and four from north to south. The church is a large ancient structure; and in the windows are the arms of the Booths. In the chancel is a curious monument to Richard Brereton, of Tatton, and Dorothea his wife, whose effigies are on the tomb. The vicarage is in the gift of the crown. It formerly belonged to Whalley-Abbey; but at the dissolution was made parochial. Two new chapels of ease have been built since 1775, at Pendleton and Swainton in this parish. The gradual and considerable increase of the population of which will best show its relative state at different periods. This will be taken at six distinct and distant times. In 1776 there were 8,723 persons; in 1780—9,147 persons; in 1785—10,522 persons; in 1790—12,430 persons; in 1793—14,265 persons; and in 1800 there were in Barton 6,197; in Clifton 812; in Pendlebury 437; in Pendleton 3,611; and in Worsley 5,062, all places within this parish, making together 16,119 inhabitants.

WORSLEY-HALL, in this parish, is a large, venerable, old brick mansion, now in the occupation of R. H. Bradshaw, Esq. in trust for the Bridgewater estate. Sir Elias de Workedesley, was lord

of this manor in the time of William the First, and this name was retained both by the place and family till the end of Edward the First's reign. The chief branch of the family is now settled at Horringham, in Yorkshire; another branch had its seat and principal estates at Appuldurcombe, in the Isle of Wight. The coal-mines and canals here have been already referred to. The warehouses connected with which, are on a very extensive scale; and among the manufactures of the place is that of blacklead-pencils, by Gilbert, Burgess, and Co. \*

#### ASHTON-UNDER-LINE

Is a large town and parish, situated at the south-eastern extremity of the county. The former consists of several narrow streets, built on a high bank, which rises from the river Tame. It appears, from an ancient manuscript, now preserved at Royton, and containing several particulars concerning this estate, that Ashton was formerly a borough. The chief landed property of this town and parish belongs to the Earl of Stamford, into whose family it was conveyed by the marriage of Sir William Booth, Kt. of Dunham-Massey, with Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Asheton. The family of Asheton were settled here at an early period, and are said to have possessed peculiar privileges and powers in this manor, among which was that of life and death over their tenantry. In commemoration of this privilege, and its having been sometimes exercised, a field near the old hall is still called *Gallows-Meadow*. An old building here also retains the name of the *Dungeons*; and to perpetuate the remembrance of some black act or tyrannical deed of Sir Ralph Asheton, who, in 1483, under the authority of being Vice-Constable of England \*, exercised great severity in this part of the kingdom, an annual custom, called *riding the black lad*, is celebrated every Easter Monday. The ceremony consists in making an effigy in the human form, of straw, which is placed on a horse, and exhibited through the streets. It is afterwards hung up at the cross in the market-place, and there shot at

in

\* The commission is preserved in Rhymer's *Fœderatæ*



in the midst of a large concourse of spectators. Formerly the figure was cased in a coat of armour, and a sum of money was advanced by the court towards defraying the expence of the effigy. A traditional account of the origin of this now absurd custom, states that Thomas Asheton, in the time of Edward the Third, was particularly distinguished in the battle of Neville's Cross\*, and bore away the royal standard from the Scotch king's tent. For this act, king Edward, on his return from France, where he had obtained a great victory, conferred on Asheton the honour of knight-hood, who, on his return to his manor, instituted the custom already described.

Ashton has a large old church, part of which appears to have been built by the lords of the manor, as their arms, impaling those of Stealy, are affixed in a shield on the south side of the steeple. In the church are some old carvings on the pews, or seats; and in the windows are some figures painted on the glass. Many of the Asheton family lie interred here, and their names were inscribed on the windows. Near the church is a curious ancient mansion, called the *Old-Hall*, the oldest parts of which are said to have been built in 1483. Adjoining this, is a pile resembling a prison, and was formerly used for that purpose. Its walls are thick, and at the extremities are two small round towers.

Connected with the town of Ashton are two hamlets, called *Charlestown* and *Boston*, from having been begun in the time of the deplorable American war. Manufactures of different kinds, a canal to Manchester, and an abundance of coal contiguous to the town, have conspired to render Ashton and its *vicinage* extremely populous and flourishing. On the western side of the town is *Ash-ton-Moss*, which supplies the poor with peat-turf. This being dug away to about ten feet in depth, lays open a fine loam-soil, which, under cultivation, becomes good pasture. The diggers find many fir and oak-trees among the peat. In the year 1775, the town of Ashton was estimated to contain 553 houses and 2859 inhabitants; and

\* See Beauties, &c. Vol. I. p. 228, and Vol. V. p. 199, for some particulars of this battle.



and the parish is stated in the population report to contain in 1800, 3,018 houses, and 15,632 persons.

About two miles east of Ashton is *Staley-Bridge*, a large populous hamlet, seated on the banks of the Tame river, over which is a substantial bridge. On an eminence is an octagon chapel, belonging to the church establishment. This place has long been noted for its woollen-cloth dyers, pressers, and weavers; but these branches of trade are more pursued in Yorkshire, and the cotton business is now more prevalent here. Near Ashton is

DUKINFIELD-LODGE, the seat and property of *Francis Dukinfield Astley, Esq.\** The house is a large irregular pile of building, occupying a broad terrace, near the top of a steep hill, which rises almost perpendicularly from the river Tame. The latter, being a mountain stream, forms in its progress several cascades; and immediately in front of the house, though not seen from it, sweeps round the base of the hill, and, with the overhanging woods, present some highly picturesque scenes. The views from the house and gardens are particularly romantic and grand. It has been already remarked in Vol. II. of this work, that Dukinfield contains several pictures; but one or two not there mentioned are entitled to notice, and to distinguished praise. These are, *Christ and the Woman taken in Adultery*, by TITIAN; a *Landscape* by BOTH; and another by BARBET, are works of acknowledged merit.

Between Ashton and Manchester is FAIRFIELD, a place of particular note, as a settlement, or sort of colony, of a class of religious persons called *Moravians*†. These have congregated themselves here within the last thirty years, and during that time have erected a large chapel, with an organ, &c. and raised several houses, which now assume the appearance of a town. The chief

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of

\* This gentleman has lately published a compendious little volume, entitled "*Hints to Planters*," &c.

† For some account of this singular sect, see an interesting work, improperly denominated a *Novel*, entitled "*Wanley Pension*."

of these form a square mass, round which is a broad paved street, and this again neatly surrounded with a series of respectable dwellings. Most of these persons are engaged in some manufacture, or useful employment; and whilst the men prosecute the spinning, weaving, and other branches of the cotton business, the women are usefully and laudibly executing tambour and fine needle work. The Moravians, I believe, are not a numerous class. Their chief settlement is at Fulneck, in Yorkshire, and there is a small one at Tytherton, in Wiltshire.

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INCE-BLUNDEL, the seat of *Henry Blundel, Esq.* is situated in the parish of Sefton, within the Hundred of West Derby\*, at the distance of nine miles north from Liverpool. This estate and manor appear to have been possessed by the Blundel family from a very remote period; and in the time of Henry the Third, a William Blundel was seated here. From him it descended to Robert Blundel, an eminent lawyer and benchers of Gray's-Inn, and it has continued to the present possessor in regular succession. The mansion, a large handsome building†, is richly stored with works of art, and contains a collection of ancient statuary, which may safely be pronounced of unrivalled merit and value in this country. Attached to this house is a new building, called the Pantheon, exactly resembling the edifice of that name in Rome, though one third less in size. This was erected on purpose to contain, and display the choicest specimens of the sculpture. The assemblage of *statues, busts, bass-relieves, cinerary-urns*, and other ancient marbles, is not only very numerous,

\* The author was prevented from inserting this account in its proper place, from the circumstance of a gentleman to whom the MS. was sent for correction, having detained it at Liverpool, till the sheet was obliged to be worked off in which the account ought to have been printed.

† The annexed print represents the front of the mansion, with the Pantheon, &c.

merous, but many of them are esteemed the finest productions of those unrivalled Grecian artists whose works are rare, but whose praises have been often repeated in the writings of the historian, the critic, and the poet. In amassing this collection, Mr. Blundel has expended immense sums of money, and devoted a long and active life. Possessing a laudible zeal for the subject, and being much abroad, he had favourable opportunities of collecting and selecting many subjects, the real value of which was not known at the time, but which is now well understood, and therefore properly appreciated. Though it will be impossible to furnish the reader with any thing like a satisfactory account of the whole collection in the present work, yet he may form some idea of its extent by knowing that it consists of about one hundred *statues*, one hundred and fifty *busts*, one hundred and ten *bass-reliefs*, ninety *sarcophagi* and *cinerary-urns*, forty *ancient fragments*, besides *marble pillars*, *tables*, and other *antiquities*; also about two hundred *pictures*\*.

Of this immense collection, a few of the best in each class are here specified.

Among the most excellent of the *STATUES*, are those of *Minerva* and *Diana*, both of which now stand in the Entrance Hall.—These rank with the very finest works of the ancient artists, and are in good preservation.—The *Minerva* is remarkable for the graceful ease of the figure, and simple, yet dignified expression of character. The head, extremely fine, has never been broken off. It came from the Duke of Lanté's palace at Rome. It was found at Ostia. The *Diana* is admired for its sweet, yet firm and spirited attitude, curious dress, and rich buskins. The legs and feet of this statue are admirably executed, and claim particular attention. In this hall is a lovely figure, of modern sculpture, the work of the celebrated *Canova*, who is by birth a Venetian. This statue represents

\* A catalogue Raisonné of this collection, with numerous prints, is now printing by the worthy proprietor, who, by such a publication, will confer an essential favour on every lover of the arts; and will thereby set a laudable example to others who possess valuable collections.



sents *Psyche*, gently and gracefully bending over a butterfly, (an emblem of the human soul,) which rests on the open palm of one hand, while with the other she holds its wings. The statue of *Jupiter Pacificus* finely expresses the attributes belonging to the God of Peace. The countenance is majestic, and unites grandeur and sublimity with mildness and benevolence. It is executed in the same broad style of sculpture which is visible in some of the most valuable statues on the Continent, and the chisel marks are discernable all over it.—The *Theseus*, who was King of Athens, and one of the most celebrated heroes of antiquity, is a remarkably fine statue, nearly seven feet high. This statue was found in Adrian's villa, and was bought by Mr. Blundel from the Duke of Modena. Nothing can exceed the beauty and symmetry of this admirable figure; nor is it possible to describe, in language, the easy dignity, and careless grace of the attitude. It is altogether a perfect work, and cannot fail of particularly interesting every spectator.—The *Æsculapius*, six feet eleven inches in height, is in fine preservation, and was for many years much noted in the villa Mattei.—The figure of the muse *Urania* is remarkable for its beautiful drapery, and elegant form.—The *Juno* veiled, and holding a pomegranate—The statue of a *Roman Senator* in his robes—The *Bacchus*, *Apollo*, *Anchyrhoc*, and several different fine statues of *Minerva*, *Apollo*, *Venus*, *Mercury*, *Hygeia*, *Isis*, &c. are entitled to particular attention, as do some rare and curious antique Egyptian idols, among which is one in *Basalte*.—There are also two groups of statuary, placed in the conservatory, one of which is esteemed, by connoisseurs, to be the finest specimen of ancient sculpture extant. The artist who executed it was a Greek, and his name is inscribed in Grecian characters on the plinth.

Among the *BUSTS*, the most conspicuous, in point of merit, both as acknowledged portraits and good specimens of sculpture, are those of *Adrian*, *Septimius Severus*, *Salvius Otho*, *Cicero*, *Claudius Albinus*, *Cato*, *Claudius Drusus*, *Augustus Cæsar*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Didia Clara*, *Marciana*, *Julia*, and a Colossal bust of *Vespasian*, a true portrait, which stands on a pillar of Cippoline

Cippoline marble. The busts of Jupiter Serapis, Bacchus, and several others, are wonderfully fine, and genuine antiques. Here also are two casts in bronze, from the heads of the celebrated Centaurs at Rome, and three or four curious tragic masks, three feet in height, valuable not only on account of the excellence of their sculpture, but from their rarity, as there are few, if any, real antique ones of that size in England. In mentioning the valuable collection of *fragments* of ancient sculpture, there are none more worthy of observation than the curious and highly finished *Hand*, which stands on a porphyry pillar in the Entrance Hall, and which displays much truth and nature. Also an *Hand*, undoubtedly belonging to the famed statue of the philosopher Zeno, in the Capstotinum at Rome. It admirably expresses the character of an old man's hand.—An antique *foot* on a pedestal of Pavonezza, is a fine piece of sculpture.—Also a *leg and thigh*, uncommonly well executed.—A fragment of some Colossal figure, which, in proportion to this knee, must have been twenty-five feet in height, the sculpture of the most excellent kind.—In the collection of *BASS-RELIEVES*, a *lion's head*, an Etruscan sacrifice, a *Tabula Votiva*, *Terminus*, *Bacchanalian Scene*, *Chariot Races*, an elegant figure of *Victory* carrying a wreath to adorn a *Temple*, *Nerides*, a *Sepulchral Monument*, and a *Jupiter Pacificus*, command particular attention, and are all of admirable workmanship. But the numerous *Sarcophagi*, and *Cinerary-Urns*, are valuable and rare specimens, especially one of the *Sarcophagi* seven feet long, and four feet high, at each end of which are lions devouring their prey, executed in a masterly style.—The collection of *Marble-Tables*, between thirty and forty in number, is peculiarly choice and valuable. These are of *Sicilian-Jasper*, *Verd-Antique*, *Pecorella*, *Oriental-Alabaster*, *Lava-Dove*, *Brocatella*, *Bianco-Nero*, *Specimen Tables*, and fine *Mosaic*, both ancient and modern. Also several *Columns* and *Pillars* of the *Verd-Antique*, *Cipollini*, *Brescia*, *Red Granite*, *Porta Santa Rubia*, *Pavonezza*, *Porphyry*, *Grey-Granite*, and other *Marbles*—and a variety of *Alabaster* and *Etruscan Vases*, and curious *Antique*



*tique Bronzes.*—The pictures are not so select as they might be; but there are several fine paintings, in which number, the *Fall and Redemption of Man*, an early picture, by RAPHAEL, stands conspicuous. The *Marriage Feast*, a large picture, by PAUL VERONESE. *Bacchus and Ariadne*, a large painting, by SEBASTIAN RICCA. Four fine Landscapes, by WILSON. Two curious *Portraits*, by Gerrard Douw. The Alchymist, by D. Teniers, with many others, too numerous to detail, deserve the attention of the connoisseur and artist.

JOHN WEEVER, a native of this county, was born in the year 1576, but at what place is not mentioned by any Biographer. Partial to ecclesiastical antiquities and sepulchral memorials, he travelled over different parts of England, and even visited the Continent to examine churches, and transcribe the *flattering* inscriptions on old tombs, &c. At length he published that part of his collection which related to the dioceses of Canterbury, Rochester, London, Norwich, and part of Lincoln. This made a small volume folio, 1641; and in 1767, the work, with some additions, was published in quarto\*, entitled, "*Ancient Funeral Monuments of Great Britain, and the Islands adjacent*,"—"with a Discourse on Funeral Monuments," &c. Wharton, (*Angli. Sac. Vol. I. p. 668.*) charges him with gross mistakes in the numerical letters and figures. Weever died in London in the year 1632, and was buried in the old church of St. James's, Clerkenwell, where the following epitaph, written by himself, was inscribed to his memory:—

" Lancashire gave me birth—Cambridge education,  
Middlesex gave me death—and this church my humation:  
And Christ to me hath given,  
A place with him in Heaven."

\* This was edited by the Rev. John Tooke, author of *Travels in Russia*, &c. who solicited the communication of additional epitaphs, but did not obtain many.—Gough's *British Topography*, Vol. I. p. 121.





17

18



for the Museum of Natural History

GILEAD HOUSE,  
(Front of the Museum.)

Designed by the Architect, and executed by J. H. W.







## LEICESTERSHIRE,

**C**ALLED in the Domesday Survey *Ledecestrescire*, is an inland county, situated nearly in the middle of England, and environed by the counties of Rutland and Lincoln to the East, Nottingham and Derby on the North, Staffordshire and Warwickshire to the West, whilst part of the latter county and Northamptonshire attach to its Southern border. The greatest part of this boundary is artificial, but on the South East the rivers Welland and Avon constitute a natural line of demarkation. A part of the great Roman road, called Watling-Street, appears to have formed a regular division between Leicestershire and Warwickshire to the South West. The district included within these boundaries was, at an early period, a part of the territory belonging to the *Coritani*, or more properly *Corani*\*. After the Romans had subjugated the Britons, and had established colonies in different parts of the Island, the country now under consideration was included within the province of *Flavia Cæsariensis*, and had military stations established at *Ratae* (Leicester); *Vernometum*, on the northern border of the county; *Benonæ*, near High-Cross; and *Manduessedum*, at Manceter†. These stations were connected by regular artificial roads, or military ways, known by the names of *Watling-Street*, *Foss-Way*, and *Via Devana*. The first enters

VOL. IX.

X

this

\* For some account of these, see Beanties, Vol. III. p. 291. See also Whitaker's History of Manchester, and Pegge's *Dissertation on the Coritani*, annexed to his Coins of Cunoboline.

† The Rev. T. Leman, on the Roman Roads and Stations of Leicestershire; see Nichols's History, Vol. I. p. 147, where are different observations on the same subject, by the Bishop of Cork and Ross, Mr. R. Gale, Dr. Pegge, Mr. Throsby, Mr. Reynolds, and Mr. Ashby.

this county at Dowbridge, or Dovebridge, on the Northamptonshire border, where the station called *Tripontium* was fixed. Hence to *Manduessedum* it passed nearly in a straight line, having the small station of *Bcnonæ* on its course. Near this place the *Foss-Way* intersects it at right angles, and passes in almost a straight line to *Ratæ*, whence it continues, in a northerly direction, to *Vernometum*, and passes on to *Margidunum*, a station near East Britford, in Nottinghamshire. In the years 1788 and 1789, Mr. Leman, in company with Dr. Bennet, the present Bishop of Cloyne, travelled this road from "Ludford, an undoubted station at the head of the Bain, clearly to Lincoln, and thence into Devonshire." Of its course through Leicestershire, he gives the following description:—"After quitting the station at Vernometum, the Foss makes a small bend (as it frequently does at entering, or leaving a station) but soon regaining its former bearing, continues straight to Sex, or Segs-Hill, and, though now much defaced, is still easily traced, by its continuing almost always in the same direction, and from its being still in *many* places high-ridged, and in *some* paved with large round stones.

"At Sex-hill is a considerable tumulus, and also the remains of an entrenchment, where the Foss is intersected by another road, apparently Roman, coming from Paulton on the Ermin-street, in an E. N. Easterly direction, pointing towards Barrow-upon-Soar, and which, if continued in the same bearing across Leicestershire, would have passed the *Via Devana* north of Markfield, and fallen into the Watling-street, near *Etocetum*, or Wall, in Staffordshire, at its junction with the Ryknield-Street.

"From Sex-hill, the Foss, in going over the commons and Thrussington Wolds, keeps generally near the hedge, till it descends into the valley beyond Ratcliff. It leaves the great oblong tumulus of Shipley-Hill to the left, and, crossing the Wreak, and another small rivulet near Syston, passes by a vast tumulus at the place where the Melton Mowbray quits the Leicester Road, and going through Thurmaston, proceeds directly to *Ratæ*, or Leicester.

"In



" In Leicester it joins the *Via Devana*, and both, continuing through the town together, leave it by the great Gate-way still remaining (but which has, I know not for what trifling reason, been called the Temple of Janus), and passing the meadow opposite to King Richard's Bridge, where its original breadth is still visible, it suddenly turns to the left (on crossing the second branch of the Soar) over the meadows; and, gaining its old bearing, joins the Narborough turnpike, and continues with it as far as the fourth mile-stone from Leicester. The Foss here quits the turnpike, and, going over the fields, leaves the town and church of Narborough to the left, and is still quite plain as it descends the last inclosure, opposite the Green-Lane, by which the Foss is continued to High Cross.

" Near Croft the farmers were breaking up in many places the ridge of the Roman road, by carrying out their manure, when I passed it in 1788; and it was impossible not to observe still parts of the stone, with which it had been paved, lying about on every side. Near Soar-Mill, where the road has been entirely neglected, and is covered with water, one could feel plainly the broken pavement as one rode over it. In a direct line, and without any variation, the Foss continues from hence over fields to *Benonæ*\*, where it joins the Watling-Street†."

The *Via Devana*, according to the opinion of Mr. Leman, extended from *Camalodunum* (Colchester) to *Deva-Colonia* (Chester), and entered this county near Brighthurst, whence it proceeds

X 2

to

\* "*Benonæ*, *Ratæ*, and all other towns in the plural number, were so called, as consisting originally of more towns than one; thus *Benonæ* included the present buildings at Clayhurst and Claychester; *Ratæ*, the buildings or towns on each side of the river: and, among the ancients, Athens was called *Athenæ*, and comprehending four distinct villages; and Syracuse, *Syracusa*, as made up of five." WM. CORK and ROSS.

† The course of this Roman road, as well as those of the Watling-street and *Via Devana*, are laid down by the Rev. T. Leman, in a small Map of Leicestershire, published in "*The British Atlas*."

to "Medbourn", an undoubted station on it." Here is a tumulus, and, on the hill between the parishes of Cranoe and Glooston, is another, and the road is still visible. Hence it continues in almost a straight line to Leicester, passing between the villages of Great and Little *Stretton*; and is seen in many places considerably raised above the original surface. It joined the Foss-way near the southern side of the town, and again left it on the north, where it branched off North-West, and continued nearly by Grooby, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, &c. to Burton.

Another ancient road, which Mr. Leman calls the "*Salt-Way*," and considers as of British origin, entered this county from Lincolnshire, in its way to the great salt mines at Droitwich: after passing by Croxton, on the north eastern border of the county, it continued to Segs-Hill, and, crossing the Foss, proceeded to Barrow, and is afterwards seen in some places in Charnwood-forest.

After the Romans had evacuated the Island, this district became part of the kingdom of Mercia; and when the subdivision of the Anglo-Saxon provinces into counties was established, and Bishops' Sees created, the town of Leicester was constituted the seat of the Diocesan. The Mercian kingdom was divided into, or distinguished by the names of Southern and Northern, and the inhabitants of Leicestershire were called *Miditerranæ*, or Middle Angles. They were frequently harrassed by the invading Danes, who, entering the district from the eastern coast, laid the whole country under contribution between the German Ocean and Leicester; and having conquered this place, established themselves here for some length of time. Indeed, Leicester was considered  
one

\* "If one were to indulge a conjecture, Medbourn might originally be called *Medium*, a name not uncommon in the Itineraries. It is nearly the centre, or half-way station between Colchester and Chester, the two great Roman colonies, which were united by this road; and the Saxons often preserved the first syllable of the Roman name with a termination of their own, as *Londinum*, London; *Corstopitum*, Corbridge," &c. WM. CORE and ROSS.



one of their five chief cities in the Island. After the Norman Invasion, in 1066, Leicestershire experienced a complete revolution in its civil and manorial privileges: as the conqueror divided it among his vassals and relations. To his kinsman, Robert Earl of Mellent, who was afterwards Earl of Leicester, he gave the whole, or the greater part, of sixteen lordships in this county; to Hugh Lupus, his nephew, who was created Earl of Chester, he gave twenty-two lordships; William Peverell, his natural son, he made Earl of Nottingham, and gave him six lordships; to Judith, his niece, Countess of Huntingdon and Northampton, he gave thirty-eight lordships; to Earl Anbrey, fourteen; to Henry de Ferrars, thirty-five; to Robert le Despencer, seventeen; to Geoffrey de Wirce, twenty-seven; and to Hugo de Grentemaisnell, sixty-seven. Thus the chief parts of the county were allotted, and parcelled out to different Norman chiefs, who again regranted various allotments to their followers and dependants, to be held of them by knight's service. Besides the above-named landholders, the King, the Archbishop of York, and the Bishops of Lincoln and Constance, possessed landed property in the county: and some was annexed to the Abbies of Peterborough, Coventry, and Croyland. In order to secure their newly-acquired possessions, these Norman chiefs and barons soon built on their respective estates "strong and magnificent castles, which might at once secure themselves, and keep the conquered English in awe." The several townships, in which such castles are known to have been erected, with the names of the founders, are, Leicester, Mount-sorel, Whitwick, and Shilton, founded by the Earls of Leicester;—Groby and Hinckley, by Hugo de Grentemaisnell;—Donington, by Eustace, Baron of Halton;—Melton, by Roger, Lord Mowbray;—Ravenston, by Goesfrid Hanselin;—Sauvey, by the Lord Basset of Weldon: and Thorpe, by Ernald de Bois. "Most of these castles, during the unquiet reigns of Henry the Second, King John, and King Henry the Third, being held by the rebellious barons, and rendered receptacles of thieves and freebooters, were, by command of the latter king, utterly demolished; and



though some of them were afterwards rebuilt, yet at this day there is not one of them remaining entire; and even the ruins of most of them are entirely defaced\*."

The Norman chiefs, after settling their possessions and fortifying themselves within their respective domains, next directed their attentions to the religious habits and prejudices of the times; as to secure the favor and influence of the monks, in an age when they were almost omnipotent, or, at least, could command and intimidate nearly the whole community, was a necessary branch of military policy, which the provincial barons neither overlooked, nor neglected. Accordingly, part of their estates were appropriated towards the foundation and endowment of Abbies, Priories, Nunneries, and other monastic establishments. In this county there were ABBIES, &c. founded by the following persons, at the times and places here specified.

*Croxton*, by William Parcarius, in 1162; *Garendon*, by Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester, in 1133, who also founded an Abbey in the town of Leicester, in 1143; *Olveston*, by Robert Grimbold, in the time of Henry the Second.

PRIORIES, &c. *Belvoir*, by Robert de Todenei, about 1180.—*Bradley*, by Robert de Bundy, temp. John.—*Bredon*, by Robert de Ferrariis, 1144.—*Charley*, by Robert Blanchmaines, Earl of Leicester.—*Hinckley*, by Hugo de Gretemaisnell, about 1090.—*Kirkby-Beler*, by Alice Beler, 1359.—*Laund*, by Richard and Maud Bassett, about 1130.—*Leicester Eremites*, before 1304.—*Leicester Black Friars*, Dominicans, temp. Henry III.—*Leicester Grey Friars*, Franciscans, by Simon Montfort.—*Leicester St. Katharine's*, for Austin Friars.—*Ulvescroft*, by Earl Robert Blanchmaines.—NUNNERIES. *Gracedieu*, by Roesia de Verdun, 1240.—*Langley*, by William Pantulph, temp. Henry II.—COLLEGIATE CHURCHES in Leicester. *St. Mary de Castro*, founded before the Conquest; rebuilt by R. de Bellomont, Earl of Leicester, 1107.—*St. Mary the Great*, in the Newark, by Henry Earl, afterwards

\* Nichols's History, &c. Vol. II. pt. 1. p. 2.

afterwards Duke of Lancaster, &c. 1353. Besides the above, there were several Free-Chapels, Hospitals, Preceptories, Chantries, &c. founded in different parts of the county.

At the time of compiling that great national work, the Domesday Survey, Leicestershire was divided into four Wapentakes, or Hundreds: Framland, Guthlaxton, Gartre, and Goscote; and thus it continued till the twentieth of Edward the Third, when one of these was subdivided into Guthlaxton and Sparkenhoe; and afterwards that of Goscote was divided into two, and denominated, from their relative situations, East and West. The whole of these are within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the See of Lincoln, and in the province of Canterbury. The county is under one Archdeacon, and six Deaneries. Burton, who published "a Description of Leicestershire," in 1622, treats of 115 Rectories, 81 Vicarages, and 105 Chapels, (33 in ruins) besides 75 Villages, Granges, Manors, &c. Ecton, in his Thesaurus, mentions 115 Rectories, 85 Vicarages, (200 Parishes,) and 110 Chapels, which were donatives, peculiars, perpetual curacies, &c. "but several of the chapels are now down, and some of the hamlets have not the trace of a dwelling\*."

Mr. Nichols states, from the Domesday Survey, that the whole county, at the time that record was compiled, contained 34,000 inhabitants: and, according to the following table, this number was augmented to 130,080 in the year 1801, when the parliament ordered an account of the population of every county, &c. to be printed.

#### POPULATION,

\* Nichols's History, Vol. II. pt. 1. p. 1.

POPULATION, &c. OF LEICESTERSHIRE,  
AS PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF PARLIAMENT, IN 1801.

| HUNDREDS<br>and<br>TOWN. | HOUSES.    |                        | PERSONS.     |        | OCCUPATIONS. |                                          | Total of Per-<br>sons. |                                              |
|--------------------------|------------|------------------------|--------------|--------|--------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
|                          | Inhabited. | Number of<br>Families. | Uninhabited. | Males. | Females.     | Chiefly em-<br>ployed in<br>Agriculture. |                        | Trade, Manu-<br>factures, or<br>Handicrafts. |
| HUNDREDS.                |            |                        |              |        |              |                                          |                        |                                              |
| Farmland . .             | 2,296      | 2,481                  | 44           | 5,669  | 5,955        | 2,709                                    | 1,054                  | 11,624                                       |
| Gartre . . . .           | 3,046      | 3,292                  | 123          | 6,851  | 7,439        | 3,374                                    | 3,553                  | 14,290                                       |
| Goswote, East            | 3,000      | 3,225                  | 91           | 7,064  | 7,373        | 3,586                                    | 3,899                  | 14,437                                       |
| Goswote, West            | 6,236      | 6,625                  | 201          | 15,462 | 15,686       | 4,156                                    | 7,944                  | 31,148                                       |
| Guthaxton .              | 3,106      | 3,329                  | 93           | 7,572  | 7,716        | 3,148                                    | 5,679                  | 15,288                                       |
| Sparkenhoe .             | 5,103      | 5,356                  | 105          | 13,404 | 12,937       | 6,571                                    | 8,577                  | 26,341                                       |
| TOWN.                    |            |                        |              |        |              |                                          |                        |                                              |
| Leicester . .            | 3,205      | 3,668                  | 85           | 7,921  | 9,032        | 499                                      | 11,380                 | 16,953                                       |
| Total . .                | 25,992     | 27,977                 | 742          | 63,943 | 66,188       | 23,823                                   | 42,036                 | 130,081                                      |

The circumference and extent of the county have not been satisfactorily defined. Mr. Nichols states the former to be "about 150 miles," whilst Mr. Monk \* sets the same down at "about ninety-six miles." The latter writer also estimates its superficial contents at "560,000 acres of land." In a table now before me, drawn up carefully from the best maps of the county, the number of square statute miles is set down at 816: and the acres at 522,240; by which calculation Leicestershire appears to be the twenty-sixth in

\* "General View of the Agriculture of the County of Leicester," 4to. 1794.



in a scale of forty, where Yorkshire is the first, and Rutlandshire the last.

**RIVERS.** This county has not any rivers of importance; but those that pass through it "are convenient and ornamental." The chief are the Soar, the Swift, the Welland, the Avon, the Wreke, and the Anchor. The *Soar*, anciently called *Leire*, the largest of these, rises from two heads, or sources, in the south-western part of the county, and after receiving a small tributary stream near Whetstone, passes by the west and north sides of the town of Leicester. Thence it continues almost due north, and after passing close by Mount-sorel, receives two or three small rivers, and disembogues itself into the Trent a little north of the village of Radcliffe. From this place to Stanford, about a mile and half north of Loughborough, it constitutes the natural boundary between this county and Nottinghamshire; and in this short course of about nine miles, are five artificial cuts, or canals, made to avoid the windings of the river, &c. In the year 1634, Thomas Skipwith, Esq. obtained a grant from King Charles to make this river "*portable*," or navigable, for boats and barges, from the Trent to Leicester. "By an act of parliament in 1776, the river Soar was allowed to be made navigable from the river into which it empties itself to Bishop's-Meadow, within the liberty of Garendon; and a navigable cut was at the same time authorised to be made and maintained thence, near, or up and into *The Rushes* at Loughborough. This plan being accomplished in 1778, a canal was then opened at Loughborough, supplied by several neighbouring streams, and communicating with the Soar; which now brings up coals, &c. at a very easy price\*."

The *Welland*, according to Sir Thomas Cave, "hath his head at Sibertoft;" but, by Prior's Survey of the county, it appears to have three or four sources, or heads, near the south-east angle of the county; all of which unite at Medbourn, and leave the county between Caldecot and Rockingham, where another river joins it from the north. These bound the county. Near Husbands Bosworth,

\* Nichols's History, &c. Vol. I. p. 140.

worth, the *Avon* has its source, and running westerly, forms the outline of the county to Dovebridge, where it enters Warwickshire; and continues till it unites with the Severn, near Tewkesbury. Thus the latter river flows to the Irish Sea, or St. George's Channel; and the Welland, which has its source in the same part of this county, empties its waters into the North Sea, or German Ocean.

The *Wreke*, *Wrekin*, or *Wreak*, rises in the parish of Abkettleby, in the eastern part of the county, and passing by Welly, joins its waters with the *Eie*, or *Eye*, whose united streams fall into the Soar near Mount-sorel.

Leicestershire being more an agricultural than a commercial district, and deprived of any particular mines, has not equally participated with many other English counties in CANAL NAVIGATION. Some plans for this purpose have been projected, at different periods, and a few have been executed. In 1782, a bill was presented to parliament for making a *navigable canal* from Chilvers-Coton, in Warwickshire, to pass by Burbach, Hinckley, Sutton-Cheynell, Sheuton, Market-Bosworth, Carlton, Congeston, Shakerston, and Snareson, in Leicestershire, whence it was to proceed through some parts of Derbyshire, and terminate on Ashby-Woulds, in this county. The object of this canal was to open a water carriage communication between the coal-mines on the Woulds and the several places already mentioned; also to facilitate the conveyance of lime, and goods of different kinds, and join with the Oxford and Coventry canals. "This scheme, being opposed by a variety of interests, failed of success." Another scheme, for opening a canal communication between the towns of Loughborough and Leicester, was strenuously proposed by some gentlemen in the county, in June 1785; again in 1786, and, in 1789, a bill for that purpose was introduced into the House of Commons, but "thrown out" on the second reading. In the year 1790, another public meeting, supported by Lord Rawdon, now the Earl of Moira, took place, and an act was obtained in the following year, "for making and maintaining a navigable communication between the Loughborough canal, and the town of Leicester; and for making and maintaining a communication by railways,



ways, or stone-roads, and water-levels, from several places and mines to the said Loughborough canal." The proprietors are styled in the act, "the company and proprietors of the Leicester Navigation;" and are fully empowered to carry their plan into immediate execution, under certain restrictions and provisions, particularly specified in the act.

In the year 1791, another act of parliament was obtained "for making *navigable the rivers Wreak and Eye*," from their junction, to join the former navigation. This plan was chiefly intended to open a water communication between the town of Melton-Mowbray, and the river Trent, for the conveyance of coal, lime-stone, lime, lead, &c.

In the year 1793, the royal assent was given to a bill for making "the *Oakham Canal*," from a town of that name, in Rutlandshire, to Melton-Mowbray. To complete this, the proprietors were authorised to raise the sum of 56,000*l.* in shares of 100*l.* each, with power to raise 20,000*l.* more, if such sum should be required. Besides the above, other bills have been planned and prepared for making other canals in the county; and several petitions were presented to parliament, by different land-owners, and the farmers of the district, against the passing of such bills\*.

SOIL and natural CHARACTERISTICS. Leicestershire is mostly a flat county, and is chiefly appropriated to the grazing system. It has obtained peculiar celebrity among agriculturalists for a breed of sheep, that is generally distinguished by the name of the shire: and the late ROBERT BAKEWELL, of Dishley, acquired for himself and the county much popularity, by the experiments and improvements he made in the breed of cattle and sheep, and in different agricultural pursuits. In a subsequent part of the work will be given a few biographical particulars of this gentleman, whose successful plans, and zealous perseverance, excited

\* In Mr. Nichols's elaborate and comprehensive History, the reader will find abstracts of several of the bills which were obtained for making the different navigable cuts, &c. in this county.



excited very general emulation among a class of persons, that had not previously evinced any particular symptoms of laudable ambition. It will be difficult to define the soils of the whole county; but it may be observed, in the words of Mr. Monk, that "it varies pretty much from a light sandy, or gravelly loam, to a stiff marly-loam, including all the intermediate degrees possible between these two extremes. Very little of the land can (with propriety) be called a mere sandy, or gravelly soil; nor is there any great quantity of it that may properly be called clay. The best soil is upon the hills; and the worst, or nearest approaching to clay or cold lands, in the valleys; though there are many exceptions from this rule. The soil, or what the farmers generally call *mould*, is generally deep, which makes it very proper for grass: such deep soils not being very soon affected by dry weather. About *Lutterworth*, some part is a light rich loam, excellent for turnips and barley; a part stiff, inclining to marl, or rich clay; the remainder chiefly a sort of medium between both, with a sub-soil, inclining to marl, bearing excellent crops of oats and wheat, and good turnips also, though not so well adapted for their being eat off the land with sheep. Round *Hinckley* most of the land is a good mixed soil, and bears good crops of grass, &c. *Ashby-de-la-Zouch*, and the northern part of the county: the soil here is various, sand, gravel, loam, and clay, but mostly clay. *Melton-Mowbray*: the soil in this part of the county, is in general a heavy loam; and immediately underneath, a very stiff impervious clay, mixed with small pieces of lime-stone. These lands are very wet in winter, and the turf so tender, as scarcely to be able to bear the treading of sheep at that season, without injury. *Market Harborough*: the soil here, in general, is a very strong clay, chiefly in grass."

Among the different breeds of sheep in the county, the *Old-Leicester*, the *Forest*, and the *New-Leicester*, or Dishley, constitute the principal sorts, and of them the latter class is in the most repute. It is a judicious maxim with the graziers to procure that breed, which, on a given quantity and quality of food, will produce

duce the most profit; and this has been proved in those of the New-Leicester. The extraordinary price for which many of these sheep have been sold at public auctions, and the large sums for which some of the rams and bulls have been let out for the season, serve at once to shew their estimation in public opinion, and the laudable zeal that prevails among certain classes of the nobility and yeomanry of the kingdom, for improving the breeds of cattle, &c. At an auction of Ewes, belonging to Thomas Pagett, Esq. in the year 1793, the following sums were given for different sheep:—Five ewes, at 62 guineas each; five, at 52 guineas each; five, at 45 guineas each; ten, at 30 guineas, and several others at 29, 25, 22, 20, and 16 guineas each. One of these sheep, which was killed at Walgrave, in Northamptonshire, was of the following weight:—The carcase, 144lb., or 36lb. per quarter; blood, 5lb.; head, 4½lb.; pluck, 4½lb.; guts, large and small, 1½lb.; paunch, 2½lb.; rough fat, 16½lb., and the skin 18lb.; making, in the whole, 177½lb. It is no uncommon thing in this county to salt down the mutton, and keep it in the usual way, and as a substitute for bacon. In the year 1793, Mr. Pagett sold several bulls, heifers, cows, and calves, by public auction, when some were knocked down at the following very extravagant prices. A bull, called “Shakespear,” described in the catalogue, as “(bred by the late Mr. Fowler,) by Shakespear, off young Nell. Whoever buys this lot, the seller makes it a condition that he shall have the privilege of having two cows bulled by him yearly. FOUR HUNDRED GUINEAS!!” A bull-calf, 31 guineas; a three years old heifer, 70 guineas; others at 35 and 32 guineas each; a two years old heifer, at 84, and another at 60 guineas. It is asserted by Mr. Monk, that Mr. Bakewell had let out a bull for 50 guineas, for the season; and that it occasioned the following curious case for the lawyers. The gentleman who hired the bull, died before the expiration of the season, and his executors, ignorant of the agreement, sold the animal, with other stock, at a public auction. The bull was bought by the butcher for about eight pounds, and killed; soon afterwards, Mr. Bakewell, not knowing of the transaction,

sent



sent for it, when he was first informed of the circumstance; and as the executors refused either to pay the stipulated sum, or the value of the beast, the owner was necessitated to seek restitution in a suit at law. His demand was 200 guineas for the bull, and 50 more for the season. The executors plea for refusing this demand, was grounded on the publicity of the sale, and the small sum that it then obtained, although "there were many farmers present, and some of those thought to be men of judgment." On the trial, however, many witnesses gave their opinion, on oath, that Mr. Bakewell had not overvalued his property, and after a full examination of the case, a verdict was given in favour of the plaintiff "to the full amount, with costs of suit."

"There are no manufactures in Leicestershire, except that of stockings, which hath, of late, been much encouraged, so that the shepherd and husbandman engross almost all to themselves; for, as the latter supplied other counties with corn and pulse, the former sends wool into many parts of England. The whole county produces wheat, barley, pease, and oats; but its most natural and plentiful crops are beans, especially that part of Sparkenhoe hundred, which lies about the village thence called Barton-in-the-beans, where they are so luxuriant, that towards harvest time they look like a forest\*." Since the commencement of the last century, *cheese* has become an article of some importance to the Leicestershire farmers; and a large cheese-fair is annually held in the county-town, for the sale of this commodity. Among the different sorts manufactured in the county, that called STILTON-CHEESE, is deemed the finest, and consequently obtains the highest prices. It acquired the title of Stilton, from a place of that name on the great north road in Huntingdonshire, where it is well known to have been first publicly sold by retail†. This cheese is sometimes

\* MS. Chetwynd—Nichols's History, Vol. II. pt. I. p. 5.

† It is asserted by Mr. Marshall, in his Agricultural Work, on the "Midland Counties," that Mrs. Paulet, of Wymondham, near Melton-Mowbray,

was



sometimes called the Parmesan of England, and is usually formed in square vats. The cheeses seldom weigh more than twelve pounds each, and from that to six pounds is the general average weight. They are sometimes moulded in nets, but this mode is not deemed so eligible as that of the vat. A good deal of this cheese is made on the farms about Melton-Mowbray. Its process of making was for some time kept a secret; but is now very generally known. And as it may be manufactured equally well in other dairies, as in those of Leicestershire and Rutlandshire, the receipt will not be unacceptable to those who may wish to make an experiment, nor to such as are laudably curious about every branch of human knowledge.

"To the morning's new milk, add the skimmed cream of the preceding evening's milking, with a proper quantity of rennet. When the curd is come, it is not to be broken in the usual way of making other cheese, but it should be taken out carefully, and placed in a sieve to drain gradually. As the whey drains off the curd is to be gently pressed till it becomes firm and dry; then place it in a wooden hoop or vat, to be kept dry, and turned frequently. After taken from the vats, it is still kept in the cloth till quite dry and firm, and afterwards repeatedly brushed. If the dairy-maid should not succeed in the first attempt, she ought not to be disheartened, for in a second or third trial she may be equally successful with an experienced maker." The process of making is very simple, but the cheese requires much care to be kept sweet and good, till fit for use. The precise time of keeping is not defined; as some farmers say they are quite ripe in twelve months, and others contend that they ought not to be used under  
eighteen

was the *first* person who manufactured this sort of cheese; but other dairy-women lay claim to priority. However, it is known, that Mrs. P. was a relation, or intimate acquaintance, of the well-known Cooper Thornhill, who formerly kept the Bell-Inn, at Stilton, and that she supplied that house with a peculiar and novel sort of cheese, which obtained much celebrity, and was frequently retailed by the landlord at half a crown per pound. From the place of sale, therefore, it certainly acquired its distinctive name.

eighteen months or two years. The price of this cheese, in London, now (1807), is from one shilling to eighteen-pence per pound, by retail.

Mr. Marshall, in the work already referred to, describes Leicestershire as a very fertile district; and the only parts of it which are not absolutely in good cultivation, are *Charnwood-Forest*, a tract of land in the northern part of the county, called the Wolds, or Woulds, and another similar tract in the southern side of the shire. The first consists of a rocky and bare surface, whilst the two others are distinguished by a cold dark-coloured clayey soil, and a sandy surface. The district called CHARNWOOD FOREST, though divested of forest scenery, and almost without a tree, is a very striking feature in this county. It comprehends between fifteen and sixteen thousand acres, "three fourths of which," observes Mr. Monk, "might be made very useful good land, and if enclosed, would make some excellent farms. If the hills were planted, and the other parts enclosed, it would be a wonderful ornament to the county. The chief proprietors, are the Earl of Stamford, Earl of Moira, William Herrick, Esq. of Beaumanor, and a few others, who, I was informed, (by one of the proprietors) wished much to have it enclosed." The following description of this tract, by Mr. Marshall, is too characteristic to be omitted.

"The Charnwood Hills are too striking a feature of this district to be passed without especial notice. Like the Malvern Hills, their style is singular; but the style of one is very different from that of the other. The Malvern Hills, seen from a distance, bear a most striking resemblance to the Atlantic Islands; towering up high and ragged; and, on a near view, appear as one large mountain fragment. The Charnwood Hills, on the contrary, seen obscurely, appear as an extensive range of mountains, much larger, and of course much more distant, than they really are. When approached, the mountain style is still preserved; the prominencies are distinct, sharp, and most of them pointed with ragged rock. One of these prominencies, Bardon Hill, rises above the rest; and, though far from an elevated situation, comparatively with



with the more northern mountains, commands, in much probability, a greater extent of surface than any other point of view in the island. It is entirely insulated, standing every way at a considerable distance from lands equally high. The horizon appears to rise almost equally on every side; it is quite an ocean view, from a ship out of sight of land; at least more so than any other land-view I have seen. The Midland district is, almost every acre of it, seen lying at its feet. Lincoln cathedral, at the distance of near sixty miles, makes a prominent object from it. With a good glass, the Dunstable Hills, at little less than eighty miles, may, it is said, be distinctly seen. The Malvern Hills, Mayhill, and the Sugar Loaf in South Wales, are distinctly in view. Enville, the Wrekin, and other mountains of Shropshire and North Wales, are equally distinguishable: and the Derbyshire hills, to the highest Peak, appear at hand. An outline, described from the extremities of the views, would include near one fourth of England and Wales. It may be deemed, without risque, I apprehend, one of the most extraordinary points of view in nature\*."

Drayton, in his *Polyolbion*, thus descants on the peculiarities of this forest:

"O Charnwood, be thou call'd the choicest of thy kind,  
The like in any place, what flood hath hapt to find?  
No tract in all this isle, the proudest let her be,  
Can shew a Sylvan nymph for beauty like to thee:  
The Satyrs and the Fawns, by Dian set to keep,  
Rough hills and forest holts were sadly seen to weep;  
When thy high-palmed harts, the sport of boors and hounds,  
By gripple borderers' hands were banished thy grounds."

The HUNDREDS of EAST and WEST GOSCOTE were united, and considered only as one, till the taxation of 1346, when it was divided, and in all civil proceedings relating to the county have ever since that period been distinctly and separately specified. As the county town is included within the hundred of *West-Goscote*,

VOL. IX.

Y

this,

\* Marshall's Rural Economy, Vol. I, p. 3—12.



this, with its principal towns and places, will be first taken into consideration. The hundred extends from the town of Leicester, to the river Trent, which bounds the county on the north, and is separated from East Goscote by the river Soar. Part of the ancient road, called the Salt-way, already described, may be traced in the forest between Barrow and Bordon-Hall. Besides Leicester, this hundred contains the towns of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Mount-sorel, and Loughborough. Its principal seats are Castle-Donington, Staunton-Harold, Garendon, and Bradgate-Park. In this district is also comprehended the forest of Charnwood; and in that part of it which borders on Derbyshire are several coal-pits and lime-works.

#### LEICESTER,

COMMONLY pronounced *Lester*, formerly written *Lege-cestria*, *Legeocester*, and in the Saxon annals *Leger-ceaster*, during a part of the Heptarchy, was a city, and has always been the chief town of the county. Without referring it to a British origin, or entering into a frivolous discussion respecting the derivation of its name, and of its civil privileges from King *Leir*, it will amply satisfy every rational enquirer, to commence its history at that period when the Romans had settled themselves in this island, and held the natives in military subordination. As those conquerors marched gradually from the south east, towards the central and northern parts of the country, they could not have obtained possession of the present district, till the intermediate places between it and the sea were subjugated, and competent garrisons established. Having accomplished this, and overpowered the *Coritani*, they took possession of the chief town of that people. This town, or strong hold, was the site of the present Leicester, and, at the time of its conquest, was "denominated *Ratae*, in the *Itinera* of Richard, Antoninus, and Ravennas; *Ragæ*, in all the copies nearly of Ptolemy's Geography, and absolutely and only *Ragæ* in Richard's Roman description of Britain. The real name, therefore,

therefore, must be equally *Ratæ* and *Ragæ*, the former implying the town to be fixed upon the currents, and the latter importing it to be the capital of the kingdom\*." That the Romans had a permanent station here, is unequivocally manifested by the tessellated pavements, and other remains, that have been discovered at different periods: and, according to Antoninus, *Ratæ* was one of their stipendary towns. "Antiquaries," says Mr. Carte, "generally agree that this is the place which is called *Caer-Lerion*, by Nennius in his catalogue of the 28 cities which are said to have flourished in Britain before the invasion of it by the Romans; and that the Romans, making it one of their stations, called it *Ratæ*. Whether the British name proves it to be a city so ancient as some assert, I think doubtful; but no doubt can be made of its being very considerable in the time of the Romans, seeing that so many of their remains have been, and are discovered among us. Mr. Baxter, in his *British-Glossary*, p. 137—200, is of opinion, that upon a Roman colony being settled at *Lindum*, Lincoln, Leicester became the chief city, or metropolis of the people, called *Coritani*; and for that reason, in *Ravennas*, it is called *Ratæ-Corion*, and in the Vatican *Ratæ Coritanorum*†." Though there be little reason to doubt the identity of this station, yet Camden and Bishop Gibson were not satisfied with the evidences they obtained, and therefore left their accounts undetermined respecting the name. Horsley, however, is decided in fixing the *Ratæ* here, and shews that the distances between this place and *Verometum* and *Vennonæ*, correspond with those in Antoninus's Itinerary. The foss-road in its way from *Londinio*, London, to *Lindum*, Lincoln, came by *Vennonæ*; whence to *Ratæ* was twelve miles, and thence to *Verometum*, thirteen miles; and these distances very nearly correspond with those between Claychester, Leicester, and Willoughby.

Y 2

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\* Whitaker's Hist. of Manchester, Vol. I. p. 151, 4to.

† Carte's MSS. quoted by Nichols, Vol. I. p. 5.



To illustrate the Roman history of this station, it will be necessary to particularize some of the remains that have been found here; but I presume it will neither be necessary nor interesting to discuss each subject in an elaborate and minute dissertation. Dr. Stukeley endeavoured to define and describe the form and extent of the station, but his plan and account have been discredited. That it was formed on the southern bank of the river Soar, that an artificial channel was cut for the water to flow up to, and constitute one boundary of the station, and that the Romans were settled here for some length of time, are circumstances easily proved, as ample evidences remain; and are recorded in support of these inferences. Many tessellated-pavements, coins, urns, and other domestic and military relics of the Romans, have been discovered at different times: some of which are still carefully preserved as memorials of ancient art, but many of the most interesting objects must have been destroyed during the ravages of war which Leicester experienced under the Saxons, Danes, and Normans. Of the *Mosaic Pavements*, that which was found in a cellar nearly opposite the town prison, in the year 1675, is the most curious, as the Tesseræ are disposed to represent two human figures, and a buck or stag. Many conjectural opinions have been published respecting the objects and story here represented; but it is less difficult to prove what it is, than to define its import. The present fragment, only part of a floor, is nearly octangular, of about three feet in diameter, and consists of variegated tesseræ, laid in cement, on a bed of oyster shells. The figures represent a stag, with a naked female resting against it, and before both is a boy with wings, and a bow and arrow; probably intended for Cupid. This group has been described by some antiquaries as a representation of that nonsensically fabulous story of *Diana and Actæon*, whilst others have hastily supposed it alluded to *Cypressus* lamenting the death of his favorite stag; but an intelligent writer, who has too much good sense to be captivated by antiquarian reveries, says, that "no story in the whole *metamorphoses*, can be found bearing the slightest resemblance to the subject before us."



us\*." Mr. Gilpin strangely calls it "a curious piece of Roman sculpture," but is more just in pronouncing it "a piece of *miserable workmanship*." That this, and several other similar pavements, are curious and interesting, as samples of ancient art, and as relics of particular customs, is readily admitted; but I cannot so far impeach my judgment as to praise, or even approve of them, as being beautiful in design, or fine in execution. Whatever taste or talents the Romans displayed in their own country, may be pretty well appreciated by the specimens which have descended to our own times; but if they ever executed any truly elegant or meritorious works in this island, such productions have been either entirely destroyed, or are yet reserved for future discovery. It has been generally supposed that these mosaic pavements were principally or only used in the floors of baths, but this opinion is not satisfactorily proved; and it is more probable that they were in general use in the houses of officers, and the higher classes of the Romans. In some of the ancient mansions in Italy, now in ruins, the whole floors consisted of highly ornamented mosaic pavements.

In the year 1754, three other pieces of Roman Pavements were discovered in that part of the town called the Black-Friars. These consisted of as many square compartments, ornamented with the guilloche border, engrailed fret, &c. Another *fragment* of a pavement was found in the year 1782, in a place called the Cherry Orchard. Two or three other fragments of this sort have been uncovered in digging cellars, graves, &c. Most of these were found from four to six feet beneath the surface of the present streets.

The most curious relic of antiquity, and one that has provoked the most copious dissertations, is the MILLIARY, or *Roman mile-stone*, which was discovered in the year 1771, on the side of the foss-road, at the distance of about two miles north of the town. The stone is circular, resembling part of a shaft of a column, and the letters are roughly and irregularly cut into the

Y 3

substance.

\* "A Walk through Leicester," 1804.

substance. It measures two feet ten inches in height, by five feet nine inches in circumference, and is placed on a square pedestal, with a tapering column above it surmounted by a lamp. This antique monument did not excite any particular attention till the year 1773, when an account of it was sent to the Gentleman's Magazine; and in the year 1783, the Corporation of Leicester deemed it worthy of removal to their town. Had they properly estimated its curiosity, they would have also taken care to guard it against wanton injury; but having fixed it on a pedestal in a public street, they fancied they had perpetuated their own fame with the name of *Hadrian*, in acquainting the public it was placed there "*at the expence of the corporation at large, in the mayoralty of James Bishop, Esq. in 1783.*" Surely, if the expence of removal deserved to be *publicly recorded*, the monument itself was worthy of some care to preserve; but it is now exposed to every species of injury that ignorance, sottishness, and folly, may choose to exercise upon it. Mr. Bray, the worthy treasurer of the society of antiquaries, communicated to that institution some account of the stone, and made out the following inscription, which was tolerably legible in the year 1781.

“IMR CAES.  
DIV. TRAIAN. PART H F. DIV.  
TRAIAN. HADRIAN. AVG.  
POT. IV. COS III A. Ratis.  
H.

On another part of the stone are the letters—E: P. B.

If the abbreviations were filled up, the full reading appears to be

“IMPERATOR CESAR,  
DIVI TRAIANI PARTHICI FILIUS DIVUS,  
TRAIANUS HADRIANUS AUGUSTUS,  
POTESTATE IV. CONSULATU III. A Ratis.



And thus in English :

Hadrian Trajanus Augustus,  
Emperor and Cæsar, the Son of the most  
illustrious Trajan Parthicus,  
In the 4th year of his reign, and his third Consulate.  
From Ratæ (Leicester) two miles.

If the Roman Milliarey-stones were ever generally used in England, it is rather singular that so many of them should be destroyed: for a very few only have been preserved. Horsley only notices three, one of which has already been referred to in the present volume. That now under consideration is the most curious that has hitherto been found, as it defines the station of Ratæ, and contains the name of the Emperor Hadrian, whose name, says Horsley, "is the first that occurs in any of our British inscriptions; and we have but few of his, though he built a rampart quite across the country; and the few erected to him are simple and short\*."

In different parts of the town, and at distant periods of time, have been found a great number of Roman Coins: among which, were several with the names of Titus, Trajan, Dioclesian, Constantine the Great, Constantine Junior, Constantius, Hadrian, Theodosius, Honorius, &c. Besides these, broken pottery, urns, jugs, &c. have been dug from the earth; and, in a place near St. Nicholas church, a vast quantity of bones have been found beneath the surface. This spot is still called *Holy-Bones*, and is supposed to have been a place of sacrifice. Contiguous to this is a curious fragment of Roman architecture, commonly called the *JEWRY-WALL*. It consists of a mass of brick-work, stones, and rubbish, with dilapidated arches. Mr. King describes it in the following terms: "What remained of this wall was about 70 feet in length, and between 20 and 30 feet in height, and about five feet in thickness; and from the bottom to the top it was built of alternate

Y 4

courses

\* Horsley's *Britannia Romana*, p. 183.



courses of rag-stone and of brick, in the Roman manner. Each course of bricks consisting generally of three rows, though the upper one of all has only two; and the several bricks being of unequal dimensions; yet, in general, a little more, or a little less, than 18 inches long, and about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick, or sometimes a little more, and about 10 or 12, or sometimes 15 inches broad. The mortar between each row was found to be nearly as thick as the bricks themselves\*." The courses of stone were not so regular; as they consisted sometimes of four or five rows of rough forest stone, and in some places the stones were thrown carelessly and promiscuously into the mortar. The arches were turned entirely of tiles, which are bound together by a large quantity of mortar. The peculiar shape of these, with the disposition of the bricks or tiles, have excited many and various conjectures. Some writers have considered it as a remnant of a temple of the Roman Janus, whilst others have described it as the *Janua*, or great gate-way to the Roman town. Though neither of these opinions seems very plausible, it would be difficult, in the present mutilated state of the object, to define its original appropriation. If intended merely as a gate-way, it would not have had above two arched openings, and these nearly, or close together; but, according to Dr. Stukeley's drawing, this had four large arches on the eastern side, with a sort of arched niche in the middle, and on the western side two arches. Besides, a tessellated pavement, with other Roman relics, have been found on the outside of this wall—between it and the river—and had it been intended as a great gateway, it would certainly have been in the exterior wall of the city. The other opinion is liable to many objections, and it would be extremely difficult to assign it a use that should prove quite satisfactory to all persons. A wall, with very similar arches, constructed with stone, is now remaining at Southampton, a particular description of which may be seen in Sir Henry C. Englefield's interesting little volume, entitled "*A Walk through Southampton*," &c. 1805. Another object of remote antiquity,

\* *Munimenta Antiqua*, Vol. II. p. 216.

antiquity, though not immediately in the town, is properly connected with the present class, and will consequently best come into this place. About a quarter of a mile south of the Infirmary are some artificial banks, which are known by the name of *Radykes*, or *Rawdykes* \*. These were formerly about four yards in height, and consisted of two parallel mounds of earth, extending 67 yards in length, at the distance of fifteen yards from each other. Before Dr. Stukeley visited Leicester, these earth works were generally considered as parts of a Roman encampment, but the Doctor suggested the idea that they formed a *British Curcus*, or race-course, and this opinion has since generally prevailed; but I am more inclined to consider them *Roman* than *British*.—Such are the most ancient subjects, and historical particulars respecting Roman-Leicester; and though these may appear merely trifling memorials of a warlike and refined nation, who probably possessed this station for more than three centuries, yet they afford abundant matter for reflection and investigation. If these remains are neither beautiful nor fine, as works of art, they are all curious as vestiges of remote times, and of a particular people. Of Leicester during the Saxon Heptarchy, the history is very vague and uncertain, though, from the concurring testimony of all writers, it was certainly a place of considerable note from the departure of the Romans to the time of the Norman conquest. According to Godwin, a *Bishop's See* was transferred from *Sidnacester* † to Leicester,

\* In the county of Merns, in Scotland, is an encampment called *Rædykes*—and in the county of Aberdeen is another, called *Re-dykes*. See King's *Munimenta Antiqua*, Vol. II. p. 157.

† The situation of this ancient Saxon city, and Roman station, for its name implies it to be such, has afforded a subject of much controversy; for writers are not agreed in fixing its site. Camden says, that it is “now so far out of all sight and knowledge, that, together with the name, the very ruins also seems to have perished, for, by all my curious inquiry, I could learn nothing of it.” Bishop Godwin is equally at a loss. Camden, however, conjectures that Gainsborough, in Lincolnshire, was the place; Gibson refers it to Stow, or Mariestow,



in the year 737. At this period the Saxon kingdom of Mercia had, according to some authors, three Bishops' Sees: Lichfield, Dorchester, and Leicester. Carte specifies Landesse and Worcester, but omits Dorchester. The accounts of these, as related by early chroniclers, and retailed by later topographers, are very vague and unsatisfactory, whence it becomes almost nugatory to particularize any of their annals. Those writers who have dilated on the subject, are very equivocal and contradictory. Carte says, that the See of Leicester was taken out of the Diocese of Lichfield in 691, and another account states, that Leicester was constituted a Bishop's See in 680, when Sexwulfus was installed. As this place was nearly in the middle of the Mercian kingdom, it must naturally have participated in the barbarous wars that were constantly occurring during the irruptions of the Picts, Scots, Danes, &c. From the Saxon annals, it appears that Ethelfrid, King of Northumberland, being an avowed enemy to Christianity, marched an army to Leicester, where they slew so many of the inhabitants, that they could not be all numbered. This account must not be taken in its full latitude, for though Leicester was certainly well peopled at that period, it is not very likely that its population was innumerable. It has already been noticed, that the Danes made themselves masters of this town, and kept possession of it for some time. Jowallensis relates, that Ethelred, King of Mercia, and his Queen Elfreda, who was daughter of Alfred the Great, repaired the town, and rebuilt and enlarged the walls, about the year 901. The latter was now made to inclose the castle, which before that period appears to have been on the outside of the town. On the conquest of England by William the Norman, Leicester soon became part of the royal demesne, and a castle was either newly erected, or enlarged, and strengthened, to ensure the submission of the inhabitants and those of the surrounding country. The wardenship

Marjestow, in that county; and Pegge, with some other writers, are inclined to fix it at Kirkton, in the same county. In the History of Lincolnshire, which will follow that of the present county, I will endeavour to elucidate this doubtful subject.



wardenship of this was entrusted to Hugo de Grentemaisnel, baron of Hinckley.

The following is a translation of that part of Domesday Book which more immediately concerns this ancient city: for the words of it are, *Civitas de Ledecestre, Tempore Regis Edwardi, &c.*—“The City of Leicester, in the time of King Edward, paid yearly to the king thirty pounds by tale, (every one of the value of tenpence) and fifteen sextaries of honey. When the king marched with his army through the land, twelve burgesses of that borough attended him. If the king went over sea against the enemy, they sent four horses from that borough, as far as London, to carry arms, or such other things as circumstances required. At this time King William has, for all rents from that city and county, forty-two pounds and ten shillings in weight. Instead of one hawk he has ten pounds by tale; and instead of a baggage, or sumpter horse, twenty shillings. Of the mint-masters he has yearly twenty pounds, every ore of the value of twenty-pence. Of this twenty pounds, Hugo de Grentemaisnel has the third penny. The king has in Leicester thirty-nine houses. The Archbishop of York two houses, with sac and soc; and they belong to Cherlinton. Earl Hugh has ten houses, which belong to Barhou, and six belonging to Cacheworde, and one house belonging to Locteburne. The Abbey of Coventreu has ten houses. The Abbey of Cruiland has three houses. From all which the king has his geld. Hugo de Grentemaisnel has a hundred and ten houses and two churches; besides these he has, in common with the king, twenty-four houses in the same borough. In the same borough has the same Hugo two churches and two houses, and four houses decayed. The Countess Judith has in the same borough twenty-eight houses; and from the moiety of a mill she has five shillings and fourpence. Without the borough she has six plough-lands belonging to the borough; and she has there one plough, and her homagers three ploughs. There are eight acres of meadow, and a wood six furlongs long, and three broad. The whole is worth forty shillings.”

During

During the disputes concerning the succession, on the death of the Conqueror, the Grentemaisnells seized Leicester Castle, and held it for Duke Robert. This subjected it to the fury of the successful partizans of William Rufus, who battered it nearly to the ground, and it continued in ruins for some time.

In the reign of Henry the First, Robert Earl of Mellent being created Earl of Leicester, chiefly resided in the castle, which he fortified and enlarged. He was very liberal to the town; as was also Robert Bossu his son; but the arrogant behaviour of the latter to the king, involved the town in broils and war; it being the practice, in those times, for sovereigns to revenge themselves, for the offences of the nobility, on the people and places immediately under the patronage of the offenders. Of this a remarkable instance took place in the reign of Henry the Second, when Earl Robert Blanchmains, leaguings with the king's son in his unnatural rebellion, Leicester, the chief resort of the disaffected, stood a long siege. The earl and his adherents were defeated near St. Edmund's Bury by the king's army, under Richard Lucy, chief justiciary of England. The earl was taken prisoner; and the king's forces gaining possession of the town, fired it in several places, and overthrew by the force of engines what the flames did not destroy. The castle held out some time longer, but the garrison was at length compelled to yield, and the whole building was made a heap of ruins. This almost complete destruction of Leicester is visible in the frequent discoveries of foundations of buildings, walls, and rubbish: some of the former are found in directions right across the present streets.

"Blanchmains, however, regained the king's favour, and was restored to his estates, but both he and his son, Robert Fitz-Parnel, engaging in the crusades, the town of Leicester was but ill-rebuilt, and the castle remained many years in a state of dilapidation. Fitz-Parnel dying without issue, the *honor* of Leicester, as part of the Bellomont estates was called, passed into the family of Simon de Montfort, in consequence of his marriage with one of the sisters of Fitz-Parnel. But the Montforts, Earls of Leicester, both  
father



father and son, were too much engaged in the busy transactions of their times to pay much attention to their property at Leicester. After the death of the latter in the battle of Evesham, the Leicester property was conferred by Henry the Third on his second son, Edmond Earl of Lancaster, whose second son Henry, heir and successor to Thomas Earl of Lancaster, beheaded at Pontefract, in the year 1322, made Leicester his principal place of residence, and under him, and the two next succeeding earls, the castle recovered, and, probably, surpassed its former state of splendor. When the Dukes of Lancaster ascended the throne, Leicester, though frequently honoured with their presence, received no permanent benefit; and though several parliaments were held there in the reign of Henry the Sixth, the castle had so far decayed in the time of Richard the Third, that he chose rather to sleep at an inn, a few evenings before his fall, than occupy the royal apartments in the castle. From this time the castle seems to have made constant progress to decay, so that in the reign of Charles the First, orders, dated the ninth of his reign, were issued to the sheriff, William Heyrick, Esq. of Beaumanor, (as appears from papers in the possession of that family) "to take down the old pieces of our castle at Leicester, to repair the castle house, wherein the audit hath been formerly kept, and is hereafter to be kept, and wherein our records of the honor of Leicester do now remain; to sell the stones, timber, &c. but not to interfere with the vault there, nor the stairs leading therefrom." From others of the same papers, it appears that the timber sold for 3l. 5s. 8d. the free-stone and iron-work for 36l. 14s. 4d. and that the repairs above ordered cost about 50l. Thus was the castle reduced to nearly its present state; and though the antiquary may, in the eagerness of his curiosity, lament that so little of it now remains, yet he must surely rejoice, in his reflecting moments, that such structures are not now necessary for the defence of the kingdom, and that the fortunes of the noblemen are now spent in a way calculated to encourage the arts and promote industry, rather than in maintaining in these castles a set of idle retainers,



retainers, ever ready to assist them in disturbing the peace of the realm, and still more ready to insult and injure the humble inhabitants in their neighbourhood \*."

Of the castle here referred to, there is scarcely any thing remaining but an artificial mound, or the earth work of the keep, near which is a part of the town, with some ancient buildings, called "the *Newark*," or New-Works. This name appears to have been given to distinguish it from the castle with its original buildings, which was either called, or considered as the old works. The former is said to have been founded by Henry, the third earl of Lancaster, and his son Henry, the first Duke of that name. By these two noblemen some large buildings were erected here; and John of Gaunt, who was Earl of Leicester, &c. added considerably to this pile. When completed, the whole must have formed a grand display; but nearly all of these have fallen beneath the devastating hand of man, and the slowly devouring tooth of time. From the remains of the surrounding walls, it is presumed that the Newark was an inclosed area, bounded on the north by the castle, on the south by fields, to the west by a branch of the river Soar, and to the east by a street of the suburbs. At this side is still remaining a large castellated gateway, called the *Magazine*, which name it obtained in 1682, when it was purchased by the county, and applied to the use of the trainbands. Throsby says it "was built with the New-works, by the founder of the hospital and collegiate church." This gateway has a large pointed arched entrance, with a small postern door-way, and communicated with an area nearly surrounded with buildings. On the south, another gate-house opened a communication to a second court, opposite to the southern gate of the castle. To the west rose a college, with a church and an hospital, which completed the buildings of the Newark. These latter structures formed another smaller quadrangle court, having on the north side the present old, or *Trinity-Hospital*, which was built and endowed for one hundred poor persons, with ten women  
to

\* Walk through Leicester, p. 109.

to wait on, and serve them. On the south stands St. Mary's church, which has cloisters; and on the west was the *College* for the Prebendaries, which Leland says, "be very praty." The walls and gates of the college, occupying the west side, were pronounced by Leland to "be very stately." This college was not only spacious in building, but was liberally founded by the Lancastrian family for a dean, twelve prebendaries, thirteen choral vicars, three clerks, six choristers, and one verger; at the dissolution its yearly revenues were estimated at 595l. 12s. 11d. Among the various donations to this establishment, the following is worthy of notice. By the Parliamentary Rolls of the year 1450, it appears that King Henry the Seventh granted to the dean and canons of the collegiate church of our Lady at Leicester, "a tunne of wynne to be taken by the chief Boteller of England in our port of Kingston upon Hull;" and it is further added, "they never had no wynne granted to them by us, nor our progenitors, afore this time to sing with, nor otherwise."

The buildings of the Newark continued in good and habitable preservation till the dissolution of the monasteries, in the time of Henry the Eighth, when Robert Borne, the last dean, surrendered his house and possessions to the king's commissioners. "From this period, the buildings of the college, being unsupported by any fund, sunk into decay, or were applied to purposes widely different from the intention of the founders. The church, cloisters, and gateway are entirely removed, with the exception of two arches of the vault under the former, which are still to be seen, firm and strong, in the cellar of the house, now a boarding-school\*."

Of the ancient religious buildings and foundations of this town that of the ABBEY was formerly of great local importance; but its buildings are nearly levelled to that earth which covers the ashes of its founders, patrons, monks, and dependants. It is said that this abbey was founded by Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester, in the  
year

\* Walk through Leicester.

year 1143, who, being advanced in age, became one of the regular canons on his own foundation, and continued here, in penance and prayer, till the time of his death. This religious foundation soon acquired sanctity and celebrity, and thence obtained numerous liberties and immunities. Besides thirty-six parishes in and about Leicester, it had lands, privileges, &c. in most of the manors in this and many other counties. The religious of this abbey had great bequests of deer, fuel, and feeding of cattle; fish-pools, cattle, fish, and corn. *Stoughton-Grange*, near Leicester, was the grand repository of food for this house. This place supported almost the whole poor of Leicester and its neighbourhood; and it was on all pressing occasions subsidiary to the king, and hospitable to travellers, who were fed and often lodged here on their journeys. Several kings of England were entertained and lodged here on their excursions to and from the north. Richard II. and his queen, with their retinue, amongst whom were the Duke of Ireland, Earl of Suffolk, Archbishop of Canterbury, and several other great personages, were entertained and lodged at this house in grand and sumptuous style.

"The death of the great and magnificent *Cardinal Wolsey* happened at this abbey, November 29, 1530, on his journey from York to London. He had just before been stript of his dignities, and his pride wounded by his royal master, who had before loaded him with riches, honour, and power, unequalled by the first of princes. He was so weak and depressed when he came to the gate leading to the abbey, that he could only thank the abbot and monks for their civility, and tell them that he was come to lay his bones among them. He immediately took to his bed, and died three days afterwards\*." It was at this place, whilst the cardinal was on his death-bed, and surrounded by the listening monks, that he pronounced the following memorable sentence, which displays that he had been more of a courtier than religionist: "If I had served my God as faithfully

\* Throsby's History and Antiquities of Leicester, 4to. p. 285.



fully as I served the king, he would not thus have forsaken my old age."

Near the North Bridge of this town was formerly the house or place where money was minted; and the series of coins that has been collected, prove that at the LEICESTER MINT a regular succession of coinage has been produced from the reign of the Saxon king Athelstan, down to Henry the Second. "The *Monetarii*, or governors of the mint, were entitled to considerable privileges and exemptions, being *Socmen*, or holders of land in the Soc, or franchise of a great baron, yet they could not be compelled to relinquish their tenements at their lord's will. They paid twenty pounds every year, a considerable sum, as a pound at the time of the conquest contained three times the weight of silver it does at present. These pounds consisted of pennies, each weighing one *ora*, or ounce, of the value of twenty-pence. Two thirds of this sum were paid to the king, and the other third to the feudal Baron of Leicester. The Leicester coins of Athelstan and Edmund the First, have only a rose with a legend of the king's name, that of the moneyer, and Leicester: from Etheldred the Second, they bear the impress of the royal head and sceptre, with the same stile of legend unchanged. In this series of Leicester coins, which has been engraved with accurate attention in the valuable work of Mr. Nichols, the triangular helmets, uncouth diadems, and rudely expressed countenances of our Saxon sovereigns, exhibit, when opposed to a plate of Roman coinage, a striking contrast to the nicely delineated features of the laurelled Cæsars. In no instance of comparison does the Roman art appear more conspicuous. The great quantity of coins of that scientific people, which have been found at Leicester, is an additional testimony of its consequence as a Roman town: these, unfortunately, upon being found at different periods, have passed into various hands; and although some few gentlemen have made collections, yet it is to be regretted, that by far the

VOL. IX.

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greater

\* Sir Joshua Reynolds has painted a grand, fine, and highly admirable picture representing this awful event.

greater part of the coins have been taken from the town. Had those found in the last century been thrown together into one cabinet, Leicester might have exhibited at this time a respectable series of Roman coinage, both in brass and silver, from the Emperor Nero down to Valens\*."

CHARTERS, &c. The first *Charter* granted to Leicester was by King John, in the first year of his reign: and at the same time Robert Fitz-Parnel, Earl of Leicester, granted a charter, or deed, to the burgesses of this town, investing them with the right of buying and selling lands, &c. Some of the privileges of the Corporation are first defined and confirmed by a grant from Robert, Earl of Leicester: and his successor, Simon de Montefort, Earl of Leicester, extended and ratified their rights by a charter, dated at Leicester, in the twenty-third year of the reign of King Henry the Third. The next charter shews the peculiar intolerance of the times. It was given by Simon de Montefort, son of the above earl, and particularly specifies that "*no Jew, or Jewes, in my time, or in the time of any of my heirs, to the end of the world, shall inhabit or remain*" in the town of Leicester. In the year 1287, this wandering and persecuted sect of people was expelled the kingdom. Till the time of Henry the Seventh, Leicester does not appear to have obtained any further royal charters, except the grant of Edward the Third for the establishment of a fair be deemed as one. Henry's charter, dated 1504, confirms all the previous privileges of the burgesses, &c. and empowers the justices, or a part of them, to "take cognizance of treasons, murders, felonies, rapes, and other transgressions." Several public acts and resolutions occurred during this reign, relating to the local government of the town, for as that monarch conquered his rival and adversary near this borough, he appears to have paid particular attention to the wants and wishes of the corporation. The charter by Queen Elizabeth specifies that the borough of Leicester is very ancient and populous, and from remote times has been a borough incorporate:

\* Walk through Leicester.



incorporate; "and the inhabitants thereof and their predecessors have hitherto had and held divers liberties, franchises, privileges, and immunities, as well on account of different prescriptions and customs used in the said borough from time immemorial, as from donations and grants made by different of our progenitors, once kings of England." It then proceeds to state, that, in consequence of petitions from the mayor and burgesses, the corporate and politic body was to be created anew, by the name of "mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the borough of Leicester." By this charter certain regulations were particularly specified for "maintaining the peace and good government of the people." The corporation were hereby empowered to buy and sell lands, houses, &c.; constitute freemen; refuse the building of malt-kilns within the distance of thirty yards from any other building, &c. It grants also a market for *wool-yarn* and *worsted*, and other commodities. All fines and amercements were ordered to be applied to the use of the poor.

As a *Parliamentary* borough, Leicester returned members to the national councils from the time of Edward the First. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, one of the burgesses was elected by the "mayor and his brethren," and the other by the commonalty of the town. This freedom of election excited much popular disturbance, even so far back as the time of Henry the Seventh, who ordained that "the mayor and his brethren should choose forty-eight of the most discreet inhabitants of the town," who should make election of all officers for the borough, as well as members of parliament. Thus it continued till the reign of Charles the Second, when Sir John Pretyma solicited the votes, and was returned by the "commons at large." Though the corporation endeavoured to overrule this election, the House of Commons admitted its validity; and from that time the right of election has been vested in "the freemen, not receiving alms, and in the inhabitants paying scot and lot\*." The number of voters is supposed

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to

\* Throsby's History and Antiquities of the ancient town of Leicester, 4to.



to be about 2000. The history of parliamentary elections generally unfolds so many traits of human baseness, depravity, and state-corruption, that the reflecting mind cannot contemplate it without emotions of sincere sorrow and regret. At the general election for 1790, a violent struggle arose in this town, when two candidates in the court interest, and two, called the opposition, claimed and entreated the suffrages of the voters. After a poll of several days, the parties coalesced, and one on each side agreed to decline the contest. But, previous to this, the populace, provoked at the circumstance of having two court candidates forced on them, committed many depredations, and, "had it not been for the timely interference of the military, their proceedings would have terminated only in the destruction of the place\*."

CHURCHES. At the time of the Norman conquest, there appears to have been no less than *six churches* in this town, and it would be highly interesting to the architectural antiquary to ascertain if either of the present structures contains any part of the building then standing. According to a manuscript in the Cottonian Library, the following nine churches, &c. were standing here in 1220: St. Mary's, St. Nicholas's, St. Clement's, St. Leonard's, All Saints, St. Michael's, St. Martin's, St. Peter's, St. Margaret's; also a chapel of St. Sepulchre. Of the religious edifices now remaining, that called *St. Nicholas's Church* is esteemed the most ancient. This stands contiguous to the Jewry-Wall, and appears to have been partly constructed with the bricks, tiles, &c. taken from the fallen parts of that building. Not only the walls, but some of the arches of the church are very similar to the Jewry-Wall, whence some antiquaries have thought that they are both parts of the same structure, or built about the same period. The church consists only at present of a nave and south aisle, with a square tower at the west end. The latter has semi-circular arches, and arcades near the top, and altogether exhibits that style of architecture

\* History of the Boroughs of Great Britain, Vol. II. p. 201.





STMARY'S CHURCH,  
Leicester.

*Engraved by J. G. Smith. From a drawing by J. G. Smith.*



ecture called Saxon. Between the nave and aisle is a series of low semicircular arches, springing from massy columns.

The *Church of St. Mary*, distinguished by the addition of *infra* or *juxta castrum*, is a large pile of irregular building, composed of various specimens, or styles of architecture, from a very early period, to a late one, when all styles were disregarded. These varieties tend to mark "the disasters of violence, accident, and time," and prove that the neighbourhood of the castle, within whose outer *ballium*, or precincts, it stood, was often most dangerous. That there was a church on this spot in "the Saxon times seems almost certain, from some bricks, apparently the workmanship of that people, found in the chancel; and the chevron work round the windows of this chancel proves that the first Norman Earl of Leicester, Robert de Bellomont, when he repaired the mischiefs of the Norman conquest, or rather of the attack made by William Rufus, upon the property of the Grentemaisnells, constructed a church on a plan nearly like the present, and adorned it with all the ornaments of the architecture of his times. This Earl founded in it a college of twelve canons, and among other donations for their support, he endowed it with the patronage of all the other churches of Leicester, St. Margaret's excepted\*."

The interior of this church is spacious, and on the south side of the nave is a singularly large semicircular arch, having a span of thirty-nine feet. The south aisle is said by Mr. Carte to have been built by John of Gaunt. At the east end of this aisle was a chapel, or choir, held by a guild, or fraternity, called the *Trinity Guild*. This was founded in the time of Henry the Seventh, by Sir Richard Sacheverele, knt. and the good Lady Hungerford. Respecting this guild, the following list of articles, bought in for the year 1508, will serve to shew the value of money, and prices of provisions at that period. "A dozen of ale, 20d.; a fat wether, 2s. 4d.; seven lambs, 7s.; fourteen goslings, 4s. 8d.; fifteen

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capons,

\* Walk through Leicester, p. 87.

capons, 5s.; half a quarter of malt, 2s.; four gallons of milk, 4d.; a pig, 5d."

At the west end of the church is a handsome tower, surmounted by a lofty and elegant spire. The latter has suffered two accidents from storms. On that memorable day, March 14th, 1757, when Admiral Byng was cruelly shot, a tempestuous wind blew out one of the windows of the spire, and did so much other damage that it was obliged to be new lined with brick, and bound round in many places with iron bands. In the year 1763 it again sustained much injury by means of lightning; and in 1783, another flash of the electric fire struck the upper part of the steeple, and nearly split it from top to the bottom. The whole was obliged to be taken down, and a new one was erected at an expence of 245l. 10s. besides the value of the old materials. The eastern end, or chancel, of this church, is a curious specimen of ancient architecture, having three *stone stalls*, or seats, in its southern wall, and the old windows have semicircular arches, ornamented with bold zig-zag mouldings. The buttresses are flat, with the same sort of mouldings running up their extreme angles\*. Near the north door is a passage leading under an old building, which forms a gateway to an area called the castle yard. At this gateway was practised, till within a few years past, an ancient ceremony, expressive of the homage formerly paid by the magistrates of Leicester to the feudal lords of the castle. The mayor, knocking for admittance, was received by the constable, or porter of the castle, and then took an oath of allegiance to the king, as heir to the Lancastrian property. The office of constable of the castle is still nominally held. Opposite this gateway is a building, partly old and partly modern, within which is a large hall, "exceedingly curious." Its dimensions are seventy-eight feet long, fifty-one feet wide, and twenty-four feet high. This space is divided by  
two

\* Since I saw this church, October 1806, I learn that part of the chancel has been taken down, and rebuilt with much skill by Mr. Firmadge, an ingenious architect of Leicester.



two rows of tall and massy oaken pillars into three divisions, like the nave and side ailes of a church. " This vast room was the ancient hall of the castle, in which the Earls of Leicester, and afterwards the Dukes of Lancaster, alternately held their courts, and consumed in rude but plenteous hospitality, at the head of their visitors, or their vassals, the rent of their estates, then usually paid in kind. On the south end appear the traces of a door-way, which probably was the entrance into a gallery that has often, among other purposes, served as an orchestra for the minstrels and musicians of former days. This hall, during the reign of several of the Lancastrian princes, was the scene of frequent parliaments. At present it is used only for the holding of the assizes, and other county meetings, to which purpose it is, from its length, so well adapted, that though the business of the civil and crown bars is carried on at the same time at the opposite ends of the room, the pleadings of the one do not in the least interrupt the pleadings of the other\*."

The fine *Collegiate Church* of St. Mary, in the Newark†, was wholly demolished in the year 1690.

Near the north gate of the town was formerly another church, called *St. Clement's*, but this has been destroyed, as has one dedicated to *St. Leonard*, which stood near the north bridge. The church-yard of the latter is still preserved as a burial ground to the parish.

The church of *All Saints* is a small modern structure, consisting of a nave and two ailes, all nearly of the same length. This vicarage, with that of St. Peter, which was annexed to it in the reign of Elizabeth, include the ancient parish of St. Michael, and part, if not the whole, of that of St. Clement. On a wooden tablet, an inscription to *William Norice* states that he is

———"Dead and gone,  
Whose grave from all the rest is knowne  
By finding out the *greatest stone*."

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This

\* Walk through Leicester.

† Of which an ample history is given by Mr. Nichols.



This stone is a large rough pebble. William Norice, who was twice mayor of the town, had three wives, and "gave thrice fifteen groats yearly to All Saints poore,"—also five marks yearly to the second master of the free-school. He died in 1615, in his ninety-seventh year.

An epitaph on *Joseph Wright*, a gardener, is couched in terms allusive to his profession:

"My mother *Earth*, though mystically curst,  
Hath me, her son, most bountifully nurst;  
For all my pains, and seed on her bestow'd,  
Out of which store that I of her receiv'd,  
My painfull wantfull brethren I reliev'd;  
And though this mother I full well did love,  
I better lov'd my father that's above;  
My mother feeds my body for a space,  
My soul for aye beholds my father's face."

The following may also be noticed among those ludicrous inscriptions which are too frequent in church-yards, and which serve as public memorials of reproach to the clergy, churchwardens, and writers. Churches, and places of human interment, are not the proper spots for illiterate and ridiculous jesting. A father, whose name was John, had two children baptised in the same name, and both dying infants, he wrote this stanza for their tomb:

"Both John and John soon lost their lives,  
And yet, *by God*, John still survives,"

Bishop Thurlow, at one of his visitations, directed the words "*by God*," to be altered "*thro' God*."

The *Church of St. Martin*, formerly called *St. Crosse*, is a large old building, consisting of a nave, three ailes, and a tower, with a lofty crocketed spire. In the south aile the Archdeacon of Leicester holds his court; and the chancel, which belongs to the king, was built in the time of Henry the Fifth, at an expense of 341. This church is considered the largest in the town, and of the county, and is used at all the public meetings of the district for

for the bishop, members of parliament, judges at assizes, &c. Within it were formerly two chapels, or oratories, and before the dissolution it contained three altars. Several carvings, sculptures, and tabernacles, also contributed to adorn the interior of this fabric: but these were systematically destroyed, and sold at the time of the reformation. The churchwardens' accounts respecting this church and parish are copious and well preserved. They begin in 1544, and contain many curious notices, descriptive of the peculiar manners and customs of the different times. In this church was held *St. George's Guild*; a fraternity which was invested with peculiar privileges, and annually ordained a sort of *Jubilee* in the town, called "*the Riding of St. George.*" The master of the guild gave public notice to the inhabitants of the day appointed for this ceremony. In an old hall-book, 17th of Edward IV. is an express order, enjoining all the inhabitants, by general summons, to attend the mayor—"to ride against the king, or for riding the George, or any other thing, to the pleasure of the mayor and worship of the town." Another order occurs, the 24th Henry VII. specifying, "that every one of the forty-eight should contribute towards the support of *St. George's Guild*; those who had been chamberlains sixpence, and the others fourpence annually." In the 15th of Henry VIII. the master having neglected to notice, or proclaim, this annual custom, an order was made, subjecting him to a fine of 5*l.* in default of appointing a day between *St. George's day* and *Whitsunday*. In *St. George's chapel*, the effigy of an horse harnessed, or decorated with gaudy church trappings, was formerly kept. "When the reformation had overthrown the monkish mummeries, that so inconsistently blended religion with pastime\*," this horse was sold for twelvepence.—In *St. Martin's church* was also another *Guild*, called *Corpus Christi*, which, Mr. Throsby says, "was the most ancient and principal in Leicester." To all public charges this guild contributed largely. There were two masters presided, who had great interest in the corporation. They had power, in conjunction with

\* Walk through Leicester, p. 138.



with the mayor, to inflict penalties upon the members of the corporation for misconduct; and, upon the mayor's neglect to obtain these penalties, they had power to levy them upon him." The present hall of the borough belonged to this guild.

St. Martin's church was converted into a barrack, or citadel, during the civil wars, when the parliamentary soldiers, who had been driven from their garrison at Newark by the royalists, took a temporary refuge here; but many were slain in this building, and in the market-place. Among the entries in the churchwardens' accounts are the following, which serve to exemplify many ancient customs, and shew the value of money, and of different articles, at the respective periods here mentioned:

A. D. 1545. "Paid to Robert Goldsmith, for mending the chalis belonging to Sent Georges chapell, and a pix, xvjd."

"Paid for IIIlb. of wax, and . . . . . weke for a torche, and makyng the same, IIs. vd."

"Paid to Robert Crofte for a day wark at the store hows, yd."

"Paid to the plumar for a dais warc on o<sup>r</sup> Lady Chappell, viid.

"Paid to the Viker, Prests, and Clarks, for the presession at St. Mgetts, on Whissun Moday, xiiid.

"Paid for a yard of grene silke, and x skeynes thred, viid."

"Paid on Palme Souday to the proffit, and for ale at the reding the passon, iid."

"Paid for chercole on Est<sup>r</sup>. evin. iid."

"Paid for the charges of the presshon on Whissun Monday, as doth appeyr in a bill, xs. iid."

"Paid to ij pore wemen for scowring the eygle of brasse, the candilstix, and ali wat<sup>r</sup>. stop, xxiiid."

"Paid for this chirche boke, bought at London the xiv day of February, Anno. Dom. 1544, IIIIs. viiiid \*,"

A. D.

\* This folio contains 773 pages of writing-paper, bound in rough calf, with strong brass clasps.



A. D. 1546. "Item, paid in expenses ii days at Covetre, when we sold the plate ther, for our horses and owreselves, iiii. 1d."

"Item, for a lode of lyme iiii. a lode of sand, iiiiid."

"Sold a hundred and a quarter and seven pound of iron for 6s. 2½d."

"Solde to Jhon Eyryke the organe chamb<sup>r</sup>, viiiis. vid."

"Solde to Symon Nyx the florth and the vente that the George stood on, iiii. s."

Four hundred and a quarter of brass was sold for 19s. per cwt. to one man, and 3 cwt. and 3 qu. was sold to another at the same price, and one hundred to a William Taylor.

"Solde to Ryc<sup>d</sup>. Raynford the sepulchre light, waying iii score and xvlb. at iiiiid. ob. a lb. xxis. xd. ob."

"Solde to Mr. Newcome c pounds waight of the organ pypes, xv is."

In the year 1550.—"Item, rec<sup>d</sup> for the post horse, xxviis. ix d." —In the same year is a charge of "viiiid. for grasse for the post horse;" and iiii. vd. for grass for the same in Beaumont Leys.

In 1553. "Receivid of Nictles Goldesmethe, for ij sherts y<sup>e</sup> was for Seynte Nicoles, and a hold towell of dyap. worke, iis. viiiid." By an entry of this year, 1l. 6s. 8d. was paid for the priests' wages for "twelve months."

In 1554, there was "p<sup>d</sup> for dressyng and hesyng Sent George, harnes, vis. viiid."

In 1559. "Rec<sup>d</sup> in Lincolne farthyngs, iis. iid.—Rec<sup>d</sup> for the Maurys dance for chyldren, iis.—Ale for the ringers, "when the quenes grace was pilamyd, viiid."

In 1561. "Rec<sup>d</sup> for serten stufe lent to the *players* of Fosson vid."—"Paid for Birdlime, iiiiid."

In 1563. "Paid for *wyn* for the communion at Estur, iij quartes of *maness*, and ix quartes of claret wyne, iiiiis. vid."

In 1570-1. "Paid unto Yreland, for cuttyng downe the ymages hedes in the church, xx d." and xii d. was paid for taking down the angels wings.

1684. "Paid Francis Hooke for his Majes<sup>ty</sup> declaration for the

the times when his Majesty *touches for healing*."—This "declaration" is a curious "*state paper*," and shews at once the superstitious credulity of the people, and the pliable policy of the king and his courtiers; who, instead of endeavouring to enlighten the age, rather countenanced its folly, in giving royal sanction to a species of supernatural agency.—By a paper, which was carefully preserved in the vestry of this church, it appears that, at the *Court of Whitehall, Jany. 9th, 1683*, King Charles II. with twenty of his noblemen and privy councillors, drew up and signed a declaration respecting the *efficacy of the Royal touch in cases of King's Evil*. It states, "Whereas, by the grace and blessing of God, the Kings and Queens of this Realm, by many ages past, have had the happiness, by their *sacred touch*, and invocation of the name of God, to *cure those* who are afflicted with the disease called the *King's Evil*; and his Majesty, in no less measure than any of his royal predecessors, *having had good success* therein; and in his most gracious and pious disposition being as ready and willing as any king or queen of this realm ever was in any thing to relieve the distresses and necessities of his good subjects: yet, in his princely wisdom, foreseeing that in this (as in all other things) order is to be observed, and *fit times* are necessary to be appointed for performing this *great work of charity*: his Majesty was therefore this day pleased to declare in council, his *Royal will and pleasure* to be, That the time of public healing shall henceforth be from the feast of All Saints, till a week before Christmas;" the above time being most convenient, and the season not so likely to produce contagion to his "Majesty's sacred person." Patients are to bring certificates that they have not previously "been touched by his Majesty." The order to be publicly read in all churches, and then affixed to some conspicuous place.

The year 1729 is rendered memorable in this church and town, by a violent and passionate controversy, that arose between Mr. Carte, the vicar of the parish, and Mr. Jackson, some time confrater, and afterwards master, of Wigston's Hospital. By public discourses from the pulpit in the morning, the former supported,  
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and zealously enforced the doctrine of the Trinity; which the latter as violently denied and opposed, in the evening. This dispute excited much notoriety, and occasioned very full assemblies. As religious zeal often produces intemperate language, and this stimulates the bad passions of men, we might rationally expect to find both actively exerted upon a subject like the present. Accordingly, at one time, the sexton stopped Mr. Jackson on the pulpit stairs, and opposed his preaching: at another time, the same preacher was commanded by the churchwardens to leave the pulpit, in the midst of his discourse. This dispute was at length settled by a process of law—and it appears, among the entries in the books already quoted, that the churchwardens “Paid to the ringers, upon news that the parish’s appeal to the arches was allowed good against Mr. Jackson, 6s.”—Another sum of 6s. was paid them “when the good news came of the parish’s casting Mr. Jackson in the Duchy Chamber.”—The bill for retaining council on this occasion amounted to 36l. 17s. 6d.

The altar piece in this church, representing the Ascension, and painted by C. F. Vanni, was presented by Sir William Skeffington, Bart. The parish register records the calamitous effects of a *plague* which raged here in the years 1610 and 1611—during which period above 166 persons were buried in this parish. In the marriage register is an entry of the names of Thomas Tilsey and Ursula Russel, the first of whom being “deofe and also dombe,” it was agreed by the bishop, mayor, and other gentlemen of the town, that certain signs and actions of the bridegroom should be admitted instead of the usual words enjoined by the protestants’ marriage ceremony. “First he embraced her with his armes, and tooke her by the hande, put a ringe upon her finger, and laide his hande upon his harte, and upon her harte, and helde up his handes towards heaven; and, to shew his continuance to dwell with her to his lyves ende, he did it by closing of his eyes with his hands, and diggine out the earthe with his fete, and pullinge as though he would ringe a bell, with diverse other signes approved.”



In a part of the church called *Heyrick's chancel*, are tombs and inscriptions to several persons of that family, who "derived their lineage from *Erick* the Forester, a great commander, who opposed the landing of William the Conqueror\*."

*St. Margaret's Church*, according to Leland's account, is "the fairest church in that place, which once was a cathedral church, and near which the Bishop of Lincolne hath a palace, whereof little yet standeth." This edifice consists of a nave, side ailes, chancel, and a handsome tower, and was annexed as a prebend to the college of Lincoln, by the bishop of that diocese, at the time when the other churches of the town were given to the abbey. The right of presentation to this church is vested in the prebendary; and this parish, with the neighbouring dependent parish of Knighton, are exempted from the jurisdiction of the Archdeacon of Leicester. The interior of "this church is handsome; the nave and side ailes are supported by Gothic arches, whose beauty and symmetry are not concealed by awkward galleries. Several elegant modern monuments adorn the walls, and in the north aile is the alabaster tomb of *Bishop Penny*, many years abbot of the neighbouring monastery of St. Mary de Pratis. In the churchyard, the military trophies of a black tomb commemorate *Andrew Lord Rollo*. This nobleman was an instance of the attraction which a martial life affords to an elevated mind, for he entered the service at the age of forty, when generally the habits and inclinations of life are so fixed as scarcely to admit any change. After many years of severe and dangerous services, he died at Leicester, as the inscription informs us, on his way to Bristol, for the recovery of his health, 1765†." It may be observed of this, and the other churches of Leicester, that their floors are considerably lower than the level of the church-yards,

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\* Throsby's History, &c. of Leicester, p. 271, where, and in his "Leicestershire Views," is a "pretty full pedigree," &c. of this "ancient and respectable family."

† Walk through Leicester, p. 16.

and the streets; whence it is inferred, that the latter must have gradually accumulated from rubbish, &c. posterior to the building of the former, which are entered by a descent of several steps.

Besides the foregoing churches on the establishment, Leicester contains some *chapels*, or *meeting-houses*, belonging to different sects of dissenters. The principal of these, called the *Presbyterian* or *Great Meeting-house*, was built in 1708, and has seats calculated to accommodate eight hundred persons. Opposite this is another *meeting-house*, appropriated to a sect denominated *Independents*: near which is another religious structure, raised in 1803, by, and for the use of a society, known by the title of *Episcopalian Baptists*.

The *County Gaol* was erected in this town, in the year 1791, at an expense of six thousand pounds, which were raised by a county-rate. It occupies the site of an old prison, and is built after the plan recommended by Mr. Howard, with solitary cells, &c. The architect was George Moneypenny, who, unfortunately, was doomed to be one of the first prisoners for debt. In the front elevation are sculptured, in bold relief, the Cap of *Liberty*, the Roman fasces and pileus encircled by heavy chains: beneath which, in large letters, the name of the architect.

The *Town Gaol* is a commodious stone building, designed by Mr. Johnson, a native of this town, and executed by Mr. Firmadge. On taking down the old gaol, in 1792, for the purpose of erecting the present, the labourers discovered the remains of the *chapel of St. John*; which was supposed to have been destroyed during the contests between Henry the Second and his son. A regular semicircular arch of stone, with ornaments of chevron work, was taken from these ruins, and preserved by Mr. Throsby, the industrious historian of the town: who had also fragments of a *Roman column*, several pieces of *Roman pottery*, many coins, and other relics of antiquity.

The *Free Grammar School*, according to Leland and Carte, was founded by Thomas Wigston, who was a prebendary of the collegiate church, where his remains were interred. This school was considerably augmented and new-established in 1573, in the  
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fifteenth of Elizabeth, when a new school-house was erected. Several other public schools are established in the town, among which is one called *the Green Coat School*, for 35 boys, who are instructed in the common routine of education, and clothed in green coats, with red collars. *St. Mary's School-house* was built by public subscription, in 1785, and is founded for 45 boys and 35 girls, who are provided with cloaths and education. The building is contiguous to St. Mary's church, and cost 600*l.* for erecting. *St. Martin's School* is intended for the poor children of that parish, and its school house is a handsome building, which cost 950*l.* At the southern extremity of the town is a large pile of building, called *The Infirmary*. This useful structure and establishment originated with Wm. Watts, M. D. and the house was erected in 1771. It is a plain square building, with two uniform wings, and is calculated to admit, exclusive of the fever ward, fifty four patients. Adjoining the infirmary is an *Asylum* for the reception of indigent lunatics, for the foundation and support of which, Mrs. Topp left a legacy of 1000*l.*, and Mrs. Ann Wigley bequeathed 200*l.* for the same benevolent purpose. In an open square called the market-place is a plain building, known by the name of the *Exchange*, where the town magistrates hold their weekly meetings, and transact public business.

*The Hotel*, an handsome modern building, was erected from the designs of Mr. Johnson, architect, and was originally intended for a coffee-house, tavern, &c. but is now appropriated to assembly rooms and a library. The ball room is fitted up in an elegant manner, having a coved ceiling, enriched with three paintings in circular compartments, representing Aurora, Urania, and Night; these are from the pencil of Mr. Reinagle, who has also decorated the walls with painted representations of dancing nymphs. Eight beautiful lustres, besides branches for lights, combine to ornament the room. Adjoining this, is a convenient and commodious *Theatre*, which was also built by Mr. Johnson, and is at present under the management of Mr. Macready, who belongs to the greater theatres of Birmingham and Manchester. In the class  
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of places devoted to the recreation and comfort of the inhabitants of Leicester, may be noticed *the New Walk*, which occupies a space of three-quarters of a mile in length, by twenty feet in width. The ground was given by the corporation, and the expense of laying it out, planting, &c. was defrayed by a public subscription. It extends in a south-east direction from the town, and from different stations, many pleasing views are obtained of the town, the meadows, and the surrounding country.

Among the curiosities of the town, the *Old Wooden Bedstead*, said to have belonged to king Richard, and on which he slept, or rather reclined, the night preceding the memorable *Battle of Bosworth\**, must not be unnoticed. This ancient relic was formerly preserved at a public house called the *Blue Boar*, afterwards changed to the *Blue Bell Inn*, an old timber building, having its upper stories overhanging the basement. "Antiquaries have spoken of this bedstead as belonging to the king, rather than to the master of the house; and this opinion has been thought favoured, by the circumstance of a large sum in gold coins, partly of Richard's reign, accidentally discovered in its double bottom. The bedstead is of oak, highly ornamented with carved work, and is now in the possession of Thomas Babington, Esq. M. P. There seems but little reason to suppose that a royal General, while attending the march of his army, should unnecessarily encrease his baggage by so cumbrous a piece of furniture, or that a sovereign, guarded by nearly all the military force of the nation, should find it expedient to hide his gold like a private unprotected person. The bedstead, therefore, it may safely be inferred, belonged not to a monarch, but to the master of a good inn; and the money was secreted in it by some person anxious to secure his property from the dangers threatened by times of civil distraction†."

= VOL. IX.

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\* Some account of this will be given in a subsequent part of the present volume.

† Walk through Leicester, p. 32. Views of the bedstead and house are given in Nichols's History, &c. of Leicestershire.



The principal, and almost only article of *manufacture* in Leicester, is that of *Stockings*, which has been an established and staple commodity here for above two centuries. "It has diffused with a bountiful hand amongst the inhabitants, riches and population. In this branch of commerce, Leicester has no competitor of consequence but Nottingham. These places together form one grand machine; whose movement, at this time (1792), is smooth and rapid, and furnishing employment for 20,000 people\*." These consist of the various persons respectively belonging to the *hosiers*, *stocking-makers*, wool-combers, dyers, frame-smiths, comb-makers, winders, sizers, seamers, spinners, hobbiners, sinker-makers, stocking-needle-makers, &c. &c. In Leicester there were, according to Mr. Throsby's statement, "upwards of seventy manufacturers, called hosiers, who, it is computed, employ 3000 frames; i. e. including the wrought goods they individually purchase." About 6000 persons, Mr. T. conjectures, are directly or indirectly employed at Leicester in some branch of "this great business." A few historical particulars respecting this useful manufacture, it is presumed, will neither be irrelevant nor uninteresting. The first machine, by which stockings were made, is said to have been invented by the Rev. W. Lee, of Calverton, Nottinghamshire, in the year 1590. This was exhibited before Queen Elizabeth, but as neither the bigotted queen, nor any of her subjects, thought proper to patronize and encourage the invention, Mr. Lee carried it to France, and was on the eve of establishing himself and his manufactory at Rouen, under a grant from the French king, when the latter was murdered. This frustrated Mr. Lee's plans, who, dying soon afterwards in Paris, some of his workmen returned to England, and settled in this county. In the year 1680 there was only one stocking-maker in Leicester, who, taking two or more apprentices, thus disseminated the secrets of his trade, and laid the foundation of a business which has proved highly beneficial to the tradesman and to the community. Deering, in his History of Nottingham,

\* Throsby's History, &c. of Leicester, p. 401.

Nottingham, states, that the *first* pair of worsted knit stockings was made by Wm. Rider, a London apprentice, in the year 1564, and was presented by him to the earl of Pembroke. Prior to this period it was customary for the kings and nobility to wear *cloth-hose*. Henry the Eighth always wore cloth hose, except by chance a pair of silk stockings was brought over from Spain, where silk abounded. His son, Edward the Sixth, was presented with a pair of Spanish long silk stockings, by his merchant, Sir Thomas Gresham, and this present was then taken much notice of. Hence it appears that the invention of knitting stockings originated in Spain; but some contend that it was first used by William Rider. Howell relates\*, that queen Elizabeth, in the third year of her reign, 1561, was presented with a pair of black silk knit stockings†, by her silk-woman, Mrs. Montague, and after that time she never wore cloth hose again. The process of *weaving* stockings was not much used till the middle and latter end of the seventeenth century. In the year 1640, a *stocking-frame* was introduced, and employed at Hinckley, in this county, where the business has been ever since carried on by some of the family of Iliffe, who introduced it. At the time the frames were first employed in Leicester, they encountered much opposition, for the knitters, like the shearmen, &c. among the woollen manufacturers, feared that machinery would deprive them of the means of livelihood. The first weavers were therefore obliged to set their frames up in cellars, and other secret places: nor was this precaution adopted without very cogent reasons; for Mr. Throsby records, that "the manufacturers of stockings in Leicester, and the villages adjacent, hearing some unfavourable reports respecting a stocking-frame which had been made by an ingenious mechanic, assembled on Monday, March 15th, 1773, for the purpose of destroying it; it being supposed so to expedite their business, that it might occasion

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numbers

\* History of the World, Vol. II. p. 222.

† This name appears to have been first given to such coverings for the legs, ~~was~~ were knit, to distinguish it from the *hose*, and *hosen*, made of cloth.



numbers of them to be unemployed. But although the report was groundless, they dared even to force themselves into the 'Change, where it had been lodged by order of the mayor, took it thence, and carried it in triumph round the town\*." Even so late as November 1787, the common people were not reconciled to machinery, for a mob assembled on the 30th of that month, to destroy a *spinning machine*, and having searched many houses without finding it, they broke into Mr. Wetstone's house in the night, and destroyed his furniture, stock in trade, trading utensils, &c.

This town and its vicinity, with Nottingham and its neighbourhood, are the principal places in England for the manufacture of stockings; and the latter is most noted for silk and the finer sort of goods, whilst the former is chiefly devoted to the coarser articles, of which a very large quantity is annually made. The trade at present is very flourishing, and in the "Walk through Leicester," it is stated "that 15,000 dozen per week," of stockings are made on an average.

In St. Mary's church, and in that of All Saints, are two curious *ancient fonts*†.

Among the natives of this town, who obtained literary eminence, was Dr. RICHARD FARMER, who was born in 1735, and distinguished himself by his masterly "Essay on the Learning of Shakespeare." This point had previously excited much disputation among theatrical critics, but the doctor's arguments very satisfactorily decided the question. Besides the above essay, he only published a few miscellaneous papers and poems, and collected some materials towards the history of his native town and county, which he gave to Mr. Nichols, for the use of his comprehensive topographical work. Dr. Farmer died in 1797.

MOUNTSORELL,

\* Throsby's History, &c. p. 167.

† Engraved in Nichols's History.

## MOUNTSORELL,

*Mountsorrel, or Mount Soarhill,*

Is a small market town on the great turnpike road from Leicester to Derby, at the distance of seven miles from the former. The name of this town presents a very odd compound of three words, one of which becomes tautological: *Mount-Soar-Hill*, i. e. a place distinguished by a Mount or Hill on the banks of the Soar. The natural features of this place are singularly romantic. Immediately on the western side of the town, is the termination of a ridge of high hills, which extend hence, through the midst of Charnwood forest, into Derbyshire, &c. The extremity here is lofty and steep, presenting a variegated face of grass and rock; and the highest point, almost overhanging the town, is called *Castle-hill*, where was formerly a fortress, which Mr. Nichols conjectures was built by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester. It is mentioned as early as the reign of king Stephen, when amicable articles of agreement were made and signed between *Ranulph de Gernoniis*, Earl of Chester (great nephew of the founder), and *Robert Bossu*, Earl of Leicester, who was at that time one of the king's foremost champions. This agreement specifies that each of these noblemen had large possessions, joining together at this place; and assigns the castle of Mountsorel, to the Earl of Leicester and his heirs, on condition that Ranulph and his family should be received in a friendly way within the borough, bailiwick, and castle, whenever they chose. This curious document is printed in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. I. p. 26. The castle continued in the possession of Robert Bossu till 1167, and then devolved to his son Robert Blanchmains, who, rebelling against Henry the Second, was dispossessed of this, and his other castles, &c. At the great council held in Northampton, 1175, he was restored to the royal favour, and had all his other possessions returned; but the king retained this as his own, and different governors were appointed to hold it, in that and some succeeding reigns. *Saer de Queney* was



invested with its government by king John, in 1215, and he occupied it with a strong garrison, not for his own monarch, but for Lewis the French king, whom the barons had invited to their assistance. This garrison committed great depredations on the neighbourhood; but these free-booters were at length opposed and conquered, by a party of royalists from Nottingham castle. The castle of Mountsorell, however, was not subdued, and Henry the Third commanded the garrison of Nottingham to besiege and demolish it. This was attempted without success. The French party and barons were afterwards conquered, and this castle was possessed by king Henry the Third, who appointed *Ranulph Blondville*, Earl of Chester, its governor. It was now razed to the ground, "as a nest of the Devil, and a den of thieves and robbers, and was never again repaired\*."

Edward the First, in 1292, granted to Nicholas de Segrave, sen. and his heirs, a weekly market, and a yearly fair, for eight days: also liberty of free-warren, in all their demesne lands of Overton, Segrave, Sileby, and Dithesworth, in this county. In 1781 an act of parliament was obtained, for "dividing, allotting, and inclosing, within the manor, lordship, and liberties of Mountsorell, part whereof lies in the parish of Rothley, and the other part in the parish of Barrow upon Soar, several open fields and commonable grounds, containing about 300 acres, and a certain commonable place called Mountsorrel Hills." In this act, Sir John Danvers, Bart. is described as lord of the manor of Mountsorell, also as impropiator of all the tythes of corn, grain, and hay, and all the great and rectorial tythes arising from the said fields and commonable grounds. The town is in the two parishes of *Barrow-on-Soar*, and *Rothley*, and the vicars of each, with the patrons and proprietors, are allotted their proportionate shares of lands and tythes, in the ground which was then to be inclosed.

"Mount-sorel-hill, is a rock of reddish granite, with pieces whereof the streets are paved. They are commonly called *Charley-forest*

\* Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III, p. 86.

*ley-forest stones*, and in many places stand out bare, and are of such hardness, after being exposed to the air, as to resist all tools. Such pieces as can be got from under the ground, are broken with a sledge, and used in buildings, in the shape in which they are broken. Many houses are built with them, and make a very singular appearance. They are often imperfect cones; and being too hard to be cut or broken, the smoothest face is laid outermost in beds of the excellent lime of Barrow. These stones, from their uncommon hardness, are coveted for painter's mullets\*.

At the end of Barn-Lane, which separates the parishes of Rothley and Barrow, formerly stood a curious CROSS. It consisted of a slender shaft of eight sides, fluted, and ornamented within the flutes, with carved heads, quatrefoils, &c. The upper part of the shaft was terminated with a crocketed pediment and niches, supported by carved figures of angels, and at the base were "rude figures with wings." This little relic of monastic antiquity was taken down in 1793, and removed into the grounds belonging to Sir John Danvers, Bart. who caused a small market house, in imitation of a pavilion, to be erected in its place.

In this town, says Burton, were formerly two *chapels*; but it has now only one, which belongs to, and is subordinate to the church of Barrow. Here are also three meeting-houses belonging to Presbyterians, Baptists, and Methodists. In 1800 the town contained 231 houses, and 1233 inhabitants.

Connected with this town, and about two miles to the north of it, but in the hundred of East Goscote, is

BARROW-UPON-SOAR, called in ancient writings, *Baro*, *Baroo*, *Barhoo*, *Barwe*, &c. This is a large and pleasant *Village*, containing 231 houses, and 1090 inhabitants. The parish is within the deanery of Akeley, and includes the townships of Barrow, Quorndon, Woodhouse, and part of the town of Mountsorell. The place appears to have taken its name from an ancient Tumulus,

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or

\* Bray's "Sketch of a Tour into Derbyshire," &c.



or Barrow, and the addition is to distinguish it from another village of that name, on the Trent, not many miles distant. In the time of Edward the Confessor, this extensive manor belonged to Earl Harold; afterwards to Hugh Lupus, who held it immediately under the king. In the reign of king Stephen, Ralph de Gernoniis gave the church here, with the chapel of Quorndon, and one carucate of his demesne lands, to the abbot and convent of St. Mary de Pratis, at Leicester, *ad proprios usus*. In an act passed 1766, for dividing the several open fields, within this lordship or liberty, Francis Earl of Huntingdon is described as lord of the manor, and the master, fellows, &c. of St. John's College, Cambridge, as patrons of the vicarage. These, with the vicar, and other proprietors, are allotted certain parts, tythes, &c. of the lands which are specified in the said act, wherein the Earl of Huntingdon is styled lord of the manor, in right of *Erdington Manor*, which now belongs to the *Earl of Moira*. "The greater part of the lordship, however, belongs to gentlemen farmers, who occupy it themselves, not only for the profits of husbandry, but there are several who get up and burn large quantities of *lime*, which brings them no small profit\*." In this village is an *hospital*, founded by the Rev. Dr. *Humphrey Babington*, vice-master of Trinity College, Cambridge, for six poor men.

Dr. WILLIAM BEVERIDGE was a native of this place, and baptized here, February 11th, 1636-7. After passing through different church preferments, he was consecrated bishop of St. Asaph, in 1704, but did not enjoy his episcopal dignity above four years, as he died in March, 1707-8, in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey, and was interred in St. Paul's Cathedral, "where he has no memorial. He was author of many learned pieces, and had a peculiar felicity in composing sermons;" one of which, "on the use and excellency of the Common Prayer," is in much repute with the clergy. His books he directed to be placed in St. Paul's Cathedral,

\* Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 69.

Cathedral, as a foundation of a library for the use of the clergy. His writings, mostly on the subject of religion, are numerous, and have been spoken of in varied terms of praise by different critics. In the *Biographia Britannica*, Vol. II. many of these criticisms are collected, with a copious memoir of him\*.

Barrow has for many centuries been famed for a hard blue *Stone*, which, being calcined, makes a very fine *LIME*, and that a hard, firm, and much esteemed *cement*. This is in particular request for water works, for making dams, flood gates, &c. and is exported to Holland, and other places, in large quantities. The stone lies in thin strata; the first under the surface is of a yellowish colour, and below this are several others of a blue colour. The latter strata are about six inches thick, and two feet asunder. Both sorts are dug out, piled up in the form of a cone, and burnt. Mr. Marshall observes, "it is an interesting fact, that the stone from which the Barrow lime is burnt, is in colour, texture, and quality of component parts, the same as the clay-stone of Gloucestershire, from which the strong lime of that district is burnt; and what is still more remarkable, it is found in similar situations, and deposited in thin strata, divided by thicker seams of calcareous clay, in the very same manner in which the clay-stone of Gloucestershire is found. One hundred grains of the *stone* contain eighty six grains of calcareous matter; affording fourteen grains of an impalpable tenacious silt, which seems to be possessed of some singular properties, forming a subject well entitled to future enquiry. One hundred grains of the *clay*, contain forty-six grains of calcareous matter, leaving fifty four grains of residuum, a fine clay. Hence this earth, which at present lies an encumbrance in the quarries, is richer in calcarosity, than the clay marl of the fleg-hundreds of Norfolk, with which very valuable improvements are made. In the *Vale of Belvoir*, is a similar stone, situated in a similar manner, and producing a similar kind of lime†." Stone of

\* See also Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 80, &c.

† Rural Economy of the Midland Counties.



of corresponding quality is found at Long Bennington, in Lincolnshire. Mr. Arthur Young, in his "Annals of Agriculture," remarks, that the Barrow-lime, with all its reputation, can never come into general use, from the central situation of the place, &c. but, as the river Soar is made navigable through this parish, and communicates directly with the Trent, and thence to Liverpool, Hull, and other sea-ports, the lime-stone may now be readily and cheaply conveyed to all parts of the kingdom. At the time of making Ramsgate-pier, the Barrow-lime stone was conveyed to that place, and there burnt and made into mortar, by a Barrow mason. The cement was employed and found to succeed, after the Dutch terras mortar had failed. Among the *natural curiosities* of the place, may be specified the *Ichthyolithi*, or fossil fish; and *Cornu Ammonis*. Besides which, various sorts of sea shells, fossil plants, &c. are often found. The fish are mostly in the lime-stone, and the shells are bedded in a gritty kind of calcareous stone. Petrified fishes, either entire, or in pieces, are common in various parts of the globe, and are usually found in argillaceous, or schistose bodies. One of the petrifications found at Barrow, has excited much curiosity and controversy among naturalists. It was preserved in the Museum at Cambridge, with Dr. Woodward's fossils, and is a plain and bold representation of a *flat fish*, about twelve inches long. Mr. Jones, in his "Philosophical Disquisitions," 4to. 1781, concludes one of his sections, after describing several good specimens of fossil bodies, by saying, that "our own country hath lately afforded what I apprehend to be the greatest curiosity of the sort that ever appeared. It is the entire *figure of a bream*, more than a foot in length, and of a proportionable depth, with the scales, fins, and gills, fairly projecting from the surface, like a sculpture in relievo, and with all the lineaments, even to the most minute fibres of the tail, so complete, that the like was never seen before."

Mr. Crabbe, in his communications to Mr. Nichols, says, that "the species of this fish cannot be accurately told;" and Dr. Pulteney also declares, that "this figure cannot well be referred to

to the sea-bream; its outline has more resemblance to a *flat-fish*." Representations of this, still doubtful, petrification, with other opinions and accounts of it, also views of several other fossils found at Barrow, are given in Mr. Nichols's volume, already referred to.

QUORNDON, in old writings spelt *Querne*, *Quernedon*, *Querndon*, &c. is a large Village, belonging to the parish of Barrow, seated on the great road, at the distance of two miles and a half south of Loughborough. The ground about here is hilly and rocky, and abounds with a great variety of different species of snakes. A chantry was founded here in 1328, by Sir *John Hamelyn*, who endowed it with lands at Wymondham, in this county; and it is said that a small *priory* was established here, for in 1352 William de Ros died seised of the moiety of one knight's fee, in Houly, which the *prior* of Quorndon held. Another chantry was founded here in 1379. In this place is the ancient seat of the *Farnhams*, who derive themselves from Sir Robert de Farnham, a companion of the conqueror. Many of this family were interred in Quorndon church, where are some long inscriptions to their respective memories. In 1762 an act of parliament was obtained for inclosing the common fields of Quorndon, computed to contain 1620 acres or thereabouts, and Francis, Earl of Huntingdon, is described as lord of the manor. Here are some good houses, among which is one called QUORNDON HALL, lately the seat of *Hugo Meynell*, Esq. the celebrated sportsman, who made many improvements to the house and grounds. Mr. Nichols says, "there are some good pictures at Quorndon-hall."

#### LOUGHBOROUGH,

ACCORDING to its size and population, may be called the second town in the county. Leland says, "The town of Loughborough is yn largeness and good building next to Leyrcester, of all the markette townes yn the shire, and hath in it a 4 faire strates,  
or



or mo, well pavid. The paroch chirche is faire. Chapelles or chirches beside, yn the towne, be none. The hole toune is builded of tymbre. At the southeast end of the chirch is a faire house of tymbre, wher ons king Henry VII. did lye\*." Loughborough consists of one parish, to which belong the two hamlets of Wood-thorpe and Knight-thorne, both about a mile distant; each having its proper officers, and maintaining its own poor. Great part of the town is the property of the Earl of Moira, to whom it came from his uncle, the late Earl of Huntingdon, in whose family it has been since the time of queen Mary.

An Act was passed in 1759, for inclosing several open fields, within the lordship, township, or liberty of Loughborough, where the last mentioned nobleman was acknowledged to be lord of the manor, and the masters, fellows, &c. of Emanuel College, Cambridge, as patrons of the rectory.

From a list, returned by the constables of this parish, in 1770, it appeared, that Loughborough then contained 43 licenced inns and ale-houses; and in 1783 there were above 50 licenced houses. In the place of an old cross is a modern market-house, or what is called the Butter and Hen Cross, which was erected in 1742, and is supported by eight round brick pillars. At the upper end of the market place stands a ruinous brick edifice, called *The Court Chamber*, where is annually held the lord's leet. The building appears to have been erected in 1688. It is sometimes appropriated to a ball-room, and to a theatre. The chief manufactures carried on at present are, hosiery, wool-combing, and frame work knitting. The Loughborough-canal has proved very serviceable to this town, and a valuable concern to the original proprietors; as 95l. a year dividend has been paid on a share of 125l. and one of these shares has sold for 1800l.

In the year 1557 this town was infested by a peculiar disease, called in the Parish Register "The Swat, alias New-Acquaintance, Stoupe, Knave, and Know thy Master." This disorder carried off

\* Leland, Vol. I. p. 20.

off nineteen persons in six days, and was called, by Dr. Freind, a pestilent contagious fever of one day. Between Midsummer 1555, and Midsummer 1559, there died of the plague and other diseases, 295 persons. In 1564 the assizes were held at this town, in consequence of the plague being then at Leicester. This fatal disorder prevailed here at different subsequent periods, and carried off several persons; in the year 1609, not less than 500 of the inhabitants died.

In the church yard is a *free-grammar school*, which was endowed with the rents arising from certain lands, &c. left by *Thomas Burton*, for the maintenance of a *chantry* within the church. Here is also a *charity school*, for eighty boys and twenty girls.

The church is a large pile of building, consisting of a nave, side aisles, chancel, transept, and tower. The latter is handsome, and was built by subscription, towards the end of the sixteenth century. Here are four dissenting meeting-houses; one for the Presbyterians, another for Baptists, a third for the followers of Westley, and a fourth for Quakers. In 1800 the town contained 981 houses, and 4546 inhabitants.

#### ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH,

IN ancient writings called *Ascebi* and *Esseby*, is a small market town, situated near the north western extremity of this county and hundred. The parish is very extensive, and includes the hamlets of *Blackfordby* and *Boothorpe*, also the extra parochial lordship of *Alton-Grange*. The manor and principal part of the lordship belong to the Earl of Moira. The town consists chiefly of one street, and was formerly almost environed by the three parks, distinguished by the names of Prestop, the Great, and the Little.

The original name of this place was simply Ashby; but acquired the addition of de-la-Zouch, to distinguish it from other Ashby's, from *Alan-la-Zouch*, who married an heiress, who possessed the manor in the time of Henry the Third. In the year 1461 the manor devolved to the crown, and was then granted, *inter alia*, to

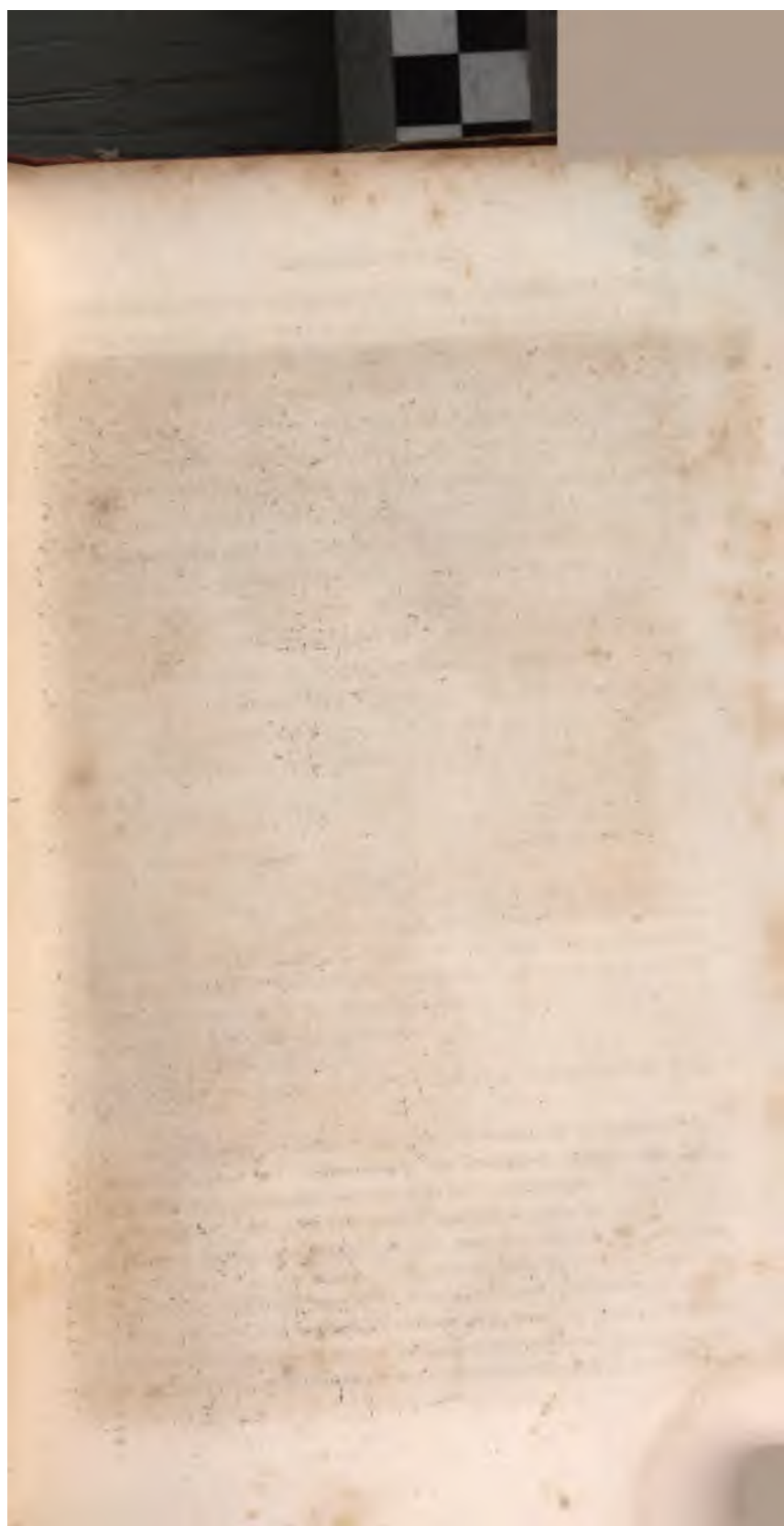
Sir



*Sir William Hastings*, Knight, who was particularly favoured by King Edward the Fourth, and was a very eminent character of that age. He was appointed master of the mint in the tower of London; steward of the honour of Leicester, Donington, &c.; constable of the castles of those two places, and at Higham-Ferrers; ranger of Leicester forest and park, Barrow, and Tooley Parks, &c. He was afterwards made chamberlain of the king's household, and lord chamberlain of North Wales. In 1461 he was advanced to the dignity of a baron; and had several manors, lordships, &c. granted him. The next year he was installed knight of the garter; and, after receiving many other public honours, obtained licence from Edward the Fourth, in 1474, to impark 3000 acres of land and wood in Ashby-de-la-Zouch; 2000 acres of land and wood in Bagworth and Thornton; and 2000 more at Kirby, with the liberty of free warren within them all\*. He was also *licenced*† to erect houses of lime and stone, at  
each

\* The power and dignity of this nobleman, and the peculiar customs of the times, may be estimated by the following statement of Dr. Fuller. In 1475 Lord Hastings "had no less than two lords, nine knights, and fifty-eight esquires, with twenty gentlemen of note, that were retained by indenture during their lives, to take his part against all persons whatever, within the realm, their allegiance to the king, &c. only excepted." He was beheaded on Tower Hill, in June, 1483, and was interred in the splendid chapel of St. George, at Windsor, where an elegant monument has been raised to his memory. A descendant of this nobleman was the eccentric *Henry Hastings*, whose oddities are described in Vol. IV. p. 434, of the present work.

† The terms in this licence or patent are "*murellandi, tourellandi, kernellandi, imbattellandi, turrellendi, and machecolandi.*" The Latinized-French words signify; "*murellare*, to wall up or immure; *tourellare*, to make towers, bulwarks, or fortresses; *kernellare*, to pinnacle; *imbattellare*, to embattle; *turrellare*, to make holes or loops in walls; *machecolare*, to make a warlike device over a gate, or other passage, like to a grate, through which scalding water, or ponderous offensive things might be cast down upon the enemy; all which, except the three first, are thus interpreted by Lord Coke, in the first book of his institutes, where it is said that no subject can build a castle, or house of strength, without special leave of the king." BURTON'S MS.







each of those places. That which he built at Ashby, was of great extent, strength, and importance, and here he and his descendants resided for about 200 years. It was built at the south side of the town, on rising ground, and was chiefly composed of brick and stone. The rooms were spacious and magnificent, attached to which was a costly private chapel. The building was dignified with two lofty towers, which were of immense size, as one of them contained "a large hall, great chambers, bed chambers, kitchens, cellars, and all other offices." The other was called the Kitchen Tower. Parts of the walls of the hall, chapel, and kitchen, are still remaining, and display a grand and interesting mass of ruins. The sadly mutilated walls are richly decorated with door-ways, chimney-pieces, windows, coats of arms, and other devices. The persecuted Mary queen of Scots, "who has given celebrity to so many castles and old mansions, by her melancholy imprisonment beneath their lofty turrets," was for some time confined within the walls of this at Ashby, while in the custody of the earl of Huntingdon\*. Anne, consort of James the First, and her son, prince Henry, were entertained, in 1603, at this castle, which was then a seat of much hospitality. It was afterwards honored by a visit from that monarch. In the civil war of the next reign, Ashby Castle was deeply involved, being garrisoned for the king, besieged by the parliamentary forces, and (though never actually conquered, whence the garrison obtained the appellation of Maiden) evacuated and dismantled by capitulation.

The CHURCH of Ashby, dedicated to St. Helen, is a handsome ancient edifice. It is built of stone, and consists of a nave and two aisles, separated by four lofty arches, springing from fluted pillars. The chancel is neat and spacious: on each side is a large chapel, projecting considerably wider than the church; that on the north is converted into a vestry room; the south is the burial place of the Hastings family. At the west end of the north  
aisle

\* Some letters from the malicious Elizabeth, to the Earl of Huntingdon, are printed in Mr. Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 609.



aile is an instrument of punishment for the disorderly, called "a finger pillory," which Mr. Nichols describes as a "singular curiosity." It consists of two upright posts, supporting an horizontal beam in two parts, opening with a hinge, the lower part containing holes of every size for the fingers of offenders. Amongst the sepulchral monuments, those of the Huntingdon family are most conspicuous. The memory of *Francis*, second *Earl of Huntingdon*, who died in 1561, and Katherine his wife, is preserved by a large and costly altar tomb, with their recumbent statues on it, and the effigies of their children round it. Here is also a mural monument for *Theophilus*, the seventh earl, who died in 1701; and another for *Theophilus*, the ninth earl, who died in 1746. His countess, *Selina*, died in 1791, and was interred here. This lady is well known for her piety and philanthropy, and for the erection and patronage of numerous chapels throughout the kingdom called after her name.

"This town," says Burton, "is the native place of the mirror and ornament of our times, the right reverend Father in God, JOSEPH HALL, now Bishop of Exeter." "Few, if any, of the fathers of our church," observes Mr. Nichols, "have left behind them such illustrious memorials of learning, piety, and unwearied industry in the cause of truth. The innocence of his life, the fervour of his charity, the variety and importance of his theological writings, have been so many irresistible claims on posterity to preserve him from the oblivion into which most of his cotemporaries have fallen." He was born, according to his own statement, "July 1, 1574, at Prestop Park, within the parish of Ashby, of honest and well allowed parentage." After obtaining and passing through several different church preferments, he was translated from the bishoprick of Exeter to that of Norwich, where he died in September, 1636, in the eighty-third year of his age. His literary works are copious, and occupy, exclusive of his satires, five volumes in folio and quarto. He was styled the Christian Seneca, from his sententious manner of writing, and was justly celebrated for his piety, wit, learning, and extensive knowledge of mankind.

Four *fairs* are now annually held at Ashby, also a *statute* for hiring servants, and a weekly market, which is plentifully supplied. The place is well watered with springs; and on the adjoining wolds are several large stagnant pools. "Ashby-de-la-Zouch contains, by estimation, about 11,200 acres; and 195 houses pay the window, or commutation tax. The inhabitants are shop-keepers, inn-keepers, manufacturers of woollen and cotton stockings, and hats, farmers and labourers. Here is one of Lady Huntingdon's Chapels, one Methodist Chapel, and one Presbyterian Chapel.

A *Latin Free-school* was founded in this town in 1567, by Henry Earl of Huntingdon, and others, "for instructing youth in good manners, learning, knowledge, and virtue." Another free-school was founded here in 1669 by Isaac Dawson; and others, for instructing twenty-six boys in the usual branches of school knowledge. In 1800 Ashby contained 621 houses, and 2674 inhabitants.

BELTON, in old writings styled *Beleton* and *Belinton*, is a pleasant village, seated in a part of the county distinguished for its picturesque scenery. The church is large, with a neat plain tower and spire, and within the former is a curious old monument, with a recumbent statue of a female, representing the Lady *Roesia de Verdun*, the founder of the

NUNNERY OF GRACEDIEU. This religious house was beautifully situated in a retired and secluded spot, near the centre of Charnwood forest, at the distance of six miles from the towns of Loughborough and Ashby-de-la-Zouch; and was founded by the above named lady, between the years 1236 and 1242, for nuns of the order of St. Austin. The whole of Gracedieu was a park, and is still so denominated. The outer wall of the garden, which is now remaining, formerly included a space of about two acres. As one of the smaller monasteries, this was included in the suppression which took place in the year 1536; but, with thirty others, was allowed, by licence from the king, to continue some time



longer. It finally surrendered in 1539, when there were fourteen nuns, a prioress, and a sub-prioress. The site of the priory, with the demesne lands, were granted in the same year to Sir Humphrey Foster, Knight, by the service of a fourth part of one knight's fee, and the rent of 50s. a year. This gentleman immediately conveyed the whole to *John Beaumont, Esq.* to whom a very curious inventory\* of the "household-stuffe, corne, catell, ornaments of the church, and such other lyke," in the priory, was made out. Among them is the following entry, respecting the number and prices of "cattell." "Item—twelve oxen, 10l.; eight kyne and bull-calf, 66s. 8d.; twenty-four bests in the forest, 7l.; seven calves, 15s.; six horses, 66s. 8d.; thirty-four swyne, praysed at 26s. 8d.: sum of the whole, 25l. 15s." In the church were, "Fyrst, one table of wode; over the hygh alter certain images, two laten candlestyks, one lamp of laten; certain ould formes in our lady chappell, certain ould images, one particion of tymber, one lampe, and ould formes in the nunnes quere, one rode, certeen images, and the nunnes stalls; in the helhowse one cloke, certein ould images, ould stoles of woode, one ould chest, one ould holy water stole of brasse, and the rosse, glasse, ieron, and pavement in the churche, and the glasse and iron in the steple, as sould for 15l."

FRANCIS BEAUMONT, the celebrated Dramatic poet, whose name is generally associated with that of *Fletcher*, his literary coadjutor, was a native of Gracedieu, where he was born in 1586. Whilst Beaumont was remarkable for the accuracy of his judgment, Fletcher was distinguished for his energy and fertility of imagination; thus, what the one created, was, by the other, "formed and fashioned," with so much discrimination and effect, as not only to prove extremely popular at the time, but entitled to admiration and praise of the present fastidious age. These co-authors produced fifty-three plays, the greater parts of which are attributed to Beaumont. "I suspect," says Mr. *E. Brydges*, who

\* This is printed in Nichols's *History of Leicestershire*, Vol. III. p. 633.

who unites the vivid fancy of the poet with the more substantial judgment of the antiquary and biographer, "that great injustice has generally been done to Beaumont, by the supposition that his merit was principally confined to lopping the redundancies of Fletcher. Indeed, the judicious authors of the *Biographia Dramatica* are not guilty of this fault; for they say, 'It is probable that the forming the plots, and contriving the conduct of the fable, the writing of *more serious and pathetic parts*, and lopping the redundant branches of Fletcher's wit, whose luxuriance we are told frequently stood in need of castigation, might be in general Beaumont's portion of the work.' This is to afford him very high praise; and the following authorities induce me to believe it just. Sir John Birkenhead, in his verses on Fletcher, has the following lines, which prove at least his opinion that Beaumont was better employed than in lopping luxuriances:"

"Some think your wits' of two complexion's fram'd,  
That one the *Sock*, th' other the *Duskin* claim'd;  
That, should the stage embattle all its force,  
Fletcher would lead the foot; Beaumont the horse;  
But you were both for both, not semi-wits;  
Each piece is wholly two, yet never splits."

Beaumont died at the very prime and vigour of life, in the year 1615, before he had attained his thirtieth year, and was buried at the entrance of St. Benedict's Chapel, in Westminster Abbey Church. A volume of his Poetical Essays, with a little Dramatic Piece, was published in 1683, in octavo. See a portrait of him, with many particulars respecting his writings, &c. in Nichols's *History of Leicestershire*, Vol. III. p. \*662, &c.

BREDON, a considerable village on the verge of this hundred and county, is seated at the base of a high lime-stone rock, on the summit of which the church stands, proudly elevated above the circumjacent country, and commands very extensive views. The parish is large, and includes the hamlets of Staunton-Harold and Worthington, Breedon Brand, Wilston, part of Cole-Orton Manor,



a third part of Launt, and a part of the village of Diseworth. An act was obtained in 1759, for inclosing the open and common fields of this manor, amounting to 1336 acres, and Harry, Earl of Stamford, is described as lord of the manor, patron of the vicarage, and proprietor of the principal lands. The manor is still belonging to the Earl of Stamford, who is also proprietor of the valuable and extensive lime-works here. "Whoever," observes Dr. Darwin\*, "will inspect with the eye of a philosopher, the Lime-mountain at Bredon, on the edge of Leicestershire, will not hesitate a moment in pronouncing that it has been forcibly elevated by some power beneath it; for it is of a conical form, with the apex cut off; and the strata, which compose the central parts of it, and which are found nearly horizontal in the plain, are raised almost perpendicularly, and placed upon their edges, while those on each side decline like the surface of the hill; so that this mountain may well be represented by a bur made by forcing a bodkin through several parallel sheets of paper."

The lime produced from this rock is of a singular quality, and is occasionally used as manure on the adjoining lands, to the amount of five or six quarters per acre. If more than this quantity be laid on, the farmers consider that it will *poison the land*. Here are six or seven kilns generally kept burning, and the quarries are between thirty and forty feet high, each presenting a cliff of heterogeneous rock, whence the stone is obtained by blasting. This stone is very brittle, and when broken, is laid on the kilns, in layers of about half a yard thick, between each of which layers is another of coals, five or six inches thick. The latter are obtained in abundance within three miles of the kilns, and very strong fires are constantly kept up. Each kiln burns, on an average, four loads a day.

At Bredon was formerly a *Priory*, or rather a *Cell*, of Augustine Canons, subordinate to the priory of St. Oswald, at Nostell, in Yorkshire. The present church belonged to the cell, till the dissolution,

\* Philosophical Transactions, Vol. LXXV. p. 4.

solution, when it was sold by Henry VIII. to Francis Shirley, Esq. as a burial-place for himself and his successors. This gentleman afterwards granted it to the parishioners. The porch is decorated with several small fragments of ancient sculpture, probably taken from the older church; and within the building are some fine monuments to the Shirley family.

STAUNTON-HAROLD, an extensive lordship, is the seat of the *Shirley family*, and is now occupied by *Robert Shirley, Earl Ferrers*. The name of this place is evidently derived from the natural character of the spot—*Stone-ton*, or town, and the adjunct of Harold from the name of an ancient lord. After the Norman conquest, Staunton was given to Henry de Ferrariis; and came into the Shirley family by the marriage of Margaret, sole heir of John and Joan de Staunton, with Ralph Shirley, Esq. in the year 1425. This family, says Burton, is of great antiquity, and descends from “an ancient Saxon line, long before the conquest.” “Of the opulence and dignity, as well as the antiquity of this noble family, a copious account may be seen in three distinct MS histories preserved in the British Museum\*.”

The mansion-house at Staunton-Harold is a large pile, composed of brick and stone. Its south-eastern, or principal front, is ornamented with pilasters and Doric columns in the centre, surmounted with a pediment. The interior of this mansion is spacious, and many of the rooms are decorated with pictures, &c. In the library, seventy-two feet by eighteen, is a splendid and copious *pedigree* of the Shirley family; also the complete *Works of Confucius*, the Chinese philosopher, in sixteen quarto volumes. Here is also a curious old bugle-horn, formed from an elephant's tooth, and adorned with representations of various field sports. Of the

B b 3

pictures

\* Nichols's History, Vol. III. p. 11. p. 704, where are extracts from, and descriptions of, these MSS.; also an account of the chief persons of the family, with portraits of *Sir Robert Shirley*, Baronet, who died 1656; and a full length portrait of another *Sir Robert Shirley*, the celebrated traveller in Persia, from a picture at Petworth.



pictures only a few can be particularized. PORTRAITS—*Sir Robert Shirley*, by Vandyck; and his Lady, by Lely; a small full length of *King Charles the Second*, in his robes, very highly finished; six Ladies, commonly called *King Charles's Beauties*, by Sir Peter Lely. These last seven portraits were given by that monarch to Robert Earl Ferrers. In the dining-parlour is one of *Wright's* best pictures, called the *Lecture on the Orrery*, in which, among several portraits, is that of *Mr. Burdett*, who surveyed and published a map of Derbyshire, and was afterwards made chief engineer to the Prince of Baden.

Dead Game, &c. by old Weenix; and a landscape, with figures, ruins, &c. by Wynants, in his best manner. A large picture of the Crucifixion, by Carracci. The Last Judgment, by Rubens, a fine and highly-valued picture; two landscapes, by Berghem; and two others, with an encampment and a battle-piece by Wouvermans. A landscape, representing the effect of a storm, by N. Poussin.

The house stands in a fine park of one hundred and fifty acres, in which is a large lake, that covers about thirty acres, and is adorned with a handsome stone bridge. Adjoining the house is the church, or chapel, consisting of a nave, ailes, chancel, and tower. Withinside are some monuments and long inscriptions, commemorative of the names, titles, and characters of several persons of the Shirley family interred here.

COLE-ORTON, anciently written *Ovretone*, is a large parish, distinguished for its collieries, and whence it appears to have derived the corrupted addition of Cole, or Coal. The country is high, and commands very extensive views every way. Orton consists of two townships, called *Over-town*, or Cole Orton Saucy; and *Nether-town*, or Overton-Quatermarsh. This place has been noted for its *coal-mines* for many ages; and in the reign of Henry the Eighth these "did burn for many years together, and could not be quenched until that sulphurous and brimstony matter (whereupon it wrought) was utterly exhausted and consumed." In this village

is

LEICESTERSHIRE.

is an *hospital* and *school*, united in one building, and erected at the expence of the Right Honourable "Thomas Lord Viscount Beaumont of this place." Some steam engines have been erected here, to drain the mines, and pull up the coals. This village is stated to have contained, in 1800, 237 houses, and 1069 inhabitants. Sir George Beaumont, Bart. is now building an elegant mansion here.

DISHLEY is a small village, rendered important in the agricultural annals of the county and kingdom, from the successful experiments and practices of the late Mr. Bakewell, who was a native of this place, and who gave dignity and a scientific character to the pursuits of the grazier and farmer which were never known or acknowledged before his time. As the history and interest of the place have arisen from this man, and as his professional practices were at once laudable, exemplary, and praiseworthy, a few particulars of his life cannot be deemed either irrelevant or uninteresting.

ROBERT BAKEWELL was born here in 1726, and having imbibed a partiality, when a youth, for the pursuits of his father, was entrusted, by that respectable yeoman, with the sole management of his farm at an early stage of life, when the generality of young men in his station are almost wholly employed in the rude and boisterous sports of the field, and the less innocent pastimes of a country village or town. It may be remarked, that whenever a man of genius becomes partial to a profession, and is enabled to pursue it without any accidental or unfortunate obstructions, he will not only acquire fame to himself, but confer dignity and interest on the object of his studies. The active and enterprising mind will certainly elicit some sparks of light, and if these be kindled by fortunate coincidences, science will be improved, and the nation benefitted. Among all the various and numerous pursuits of man, that of agriculture is certainly the most useful; for the necessities of life are of the first importance—its luxuries and pleasures but a secondary consideration. He, therefore, who augments the former, and causes them to be rendered better and



cheaper, may fairly be ranked with the greatest philanthropists and patriots. It has been repeatedly and justly remarked, that there is no class of men, above the very vulgar, more obstinately attached to old systems and inveterate prejudices than the husbandmen and farmers of this country. Among these, therefore, useful novelty and innovation became more extraordinary and praiseworthy. Before the establishment of the London Agricultural Society, scarcely any experiments in the science of agriculture had been made, or, if made, were never publicly promulgated. That society stimulated enquiry, excited competition, and ultimately provoked improvements. Other smaller societies have progressively sprung up in different parts of the country, and all have jointly co-operated in disseminating useful knowledge. The common-place complaint of reprobating these, as tending to enhance the prices of the necessaries of life, and produce superfluity of fat in animals, is scarcely entitled to serious refutation, as dogmatic and illiterate assertions are unworthy of argument. It may be confidently said, that no individual has effected so much towards the removal of prejudices from, and establishment of enlightened practices in, his profession as Mr. Bakewell. His maxims were founded on the best principles of philosophy, and he fortunately exemplified those maxims in most of his experiments and practices. His grand principle, in stock-breeding, was that "like will produce its like;" or, that well made, finely proportioned, and thriving animals, will produce others of similar qualities. He also contended and proved, that cattle and sheep, when in good condition, did not devour so much food, or cost so much for keep, as poor and starving animals. The form of these was also a point of consequence in his estimation; and he always chose those with bodies shaped something like a barrel: i. e. round, large in the middle, and tapering towards both ends. Their bones and heads were to be very small, and their legs short; as flesh is more profitable and useful than offal or bone.

A few particulars relative to the life of Mr. Bakewell, and of his practices at Dishley, will serve to illustrate these remarks. The instructive conversation of his father, combining with the sentiments

ments of Ellis, of Gaddesden, who had published some works on farming and cattle, were the first incentives to improvement experienced by our rural philosopher. These, however, only produced theoretic notions, and excited a desire to visit other counties and places, in order to observe and learn the practices of some experienced and noted farmers. He therefore made tours into Norfolk, Ireland, Holland, Flanders, &c. and from carefully and rationally examining the various and different practices of others, acquired a large portion of that useful wordly wisdom which consists in knowing what ought to be avoided, and what may be best and most advantageously adopted and persevered in. Nothing either of great or inferior consequence in rural economics escaped his indefatigable research. Having satisfied himself respecting the management of others, after his father's death, he employed the full energies of his mind and knowledge on his own farm at Dishley. This, according to Mr. Young, "consisted of four hundred and forty acres, one hundred and ten of which were arable, and the rest grass. On this he kept sixty horses, four hundred large sheep, and one hundred and fifty beasts of all sorts, and yet he has generally about fifteen acres of wheat, and twenty-five of spring corn; the turnips not more than thirty acres. If the degree of fatness in which he keeps all these cattle be considered, and that he buys neither straw nor hay, it must at once appear that he keeps a larger stock, on a given number of acres, than most men in England: the strongest proof of all others of the excellence of his husbandry \*." In *selecting* the above stock, Mr. Bakewell evinced his discriminating judgment; which was equally displayed in his mode of keeping and fattening them. His general treatment of live stock, and management of servants, all constituted parts of that system which at once did honour to his head and heart. At Dishley every branch of rural economics was systematized; and after various experiments had been tried, that was adopted and persisted in which had proved most successful, and therefore promised

\* "Farmer's Tour," 1771, 8vo.



mised to be most advantageous. Though the views and plans of Mr. Bakewell embraced almost every object and office in the compass of agriculture and breeding, yet he appears to have been most successful in the rearing and management of *Sheep*. The peculiar sort that originated from his mode of breeding and rearing, has acquired the name of the *Dishley*, or *New Leicester* sheep. Their bodies "are as true barrels as can be seen"; round broad backs, and the legs not above six inches long; and a most unusual proof of their kindly fattening is, their feeling quite fat just within their fore legs on the ribs, a point in which sheep are never examined in common." In making his sheep fat, as in fattening his cattle, he was only solicitous of augmenting and enriching the useful parts of the carcase. He also enured his live stock to hardihood, and contended that his sheep would thrive much better on the mountains of Wales, in lanes, &c. than those accustomed to such places. The original breed was the Lincolnshire; but these were greatly improved and altered. Respecting that destructive and fatal disease called the *rot in sheep*, Mr. Bakewell tried different experiments, and ultimately concluded that it arises *wholly from floods*. The grass produced from these inundations being unnaturally forced and "flashy," almost invariably causes this disorder in sheep. Irrigation, when discontinued before the month of May, does not occasion the grass to produce this effect, nor does any continuation of rain. This was repeatedly tried by Mr. Bakewell, who also made use of the following plan to satisfy himself that his fat sheep should always be killed when sold to the butcher. He overflowed a piece of pasture, or meadow, in *summer*, and in the following autumn turned in such sheep as were destined for the butcher, and these invariably were affected with the rot. "After the middle of May," says Mr. Young, "water flowing

\* A three years old ram was accurately measured, and the result thus stated—"Girt 5 feet 10 inches; height 2 feet 5 inches; his collar broad at the ear tips, 1 foot 4 inches; breadth over his shoulders 1 foot 11  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches; ditto over his ribs 1 foot 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches; ditto his hips 1 foot 9  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches."

flowing over land is certain to cause it to rot, whatever be the soil \*."

After examining the *Cattle* of different counties, Mr. Bakewell chose the Lancashire, or long-horned breed, as most adapted to his system; and many bulls and heifers bred at Dishley have been much admired for their beauty, docility, and aptitude to fatten. In the mode of wintering these he was particularly careful. They were all tied up in open sheds, or houses, from November till the end of March, and fed upon straw, turnips, or hay. The lean cattle had only the first; and the proprietor never littered any of these from a motive of using all the straw as food. The floors on which the beasts stood were paved, raised six or eight inches above the yard, and so narrow that the hind legs of the animals reached the extreme edge. By this plan the dung generally fell beyond the floors, and these were kept dry and clean. Instead of oxen, cows were generally used in harness, though horses were also employed; and Mr. Bakewell is said to have been the first person who adopted the economical and judicious plan of ploughing with two a-breast. While one man was employed with only two horses in turning up the earth on his farm, many of his neighbouring farmers sent a team of four and five, with a man and boy, to perform the same work, and in similar soil. In the breed of *Horses* he was also very scrupulous, and chose the short, thick, black sort, as most advantageous for the harness. Some of his stallions were let out for very large sums; and one, a famous black horse, was made a public exhibition of in the court-yard, at St. James's. The Dishley breed of horses originated in that of Flanders, whence Mr. Bakewell selected the most valuable he could procure, and that at very great prices. "The handsomest horse I have ever seen of the Leicestershire breed," says Mr. Marshall, "and perhaps the most picturable horse of this kind ever bred in the island, was a stallion of Mr. Bakewell's, named K. He was in reality the fancied war-horse of the German painters, who, in the luxuriance

\* Farmer's Tour.



luxuriance of imagination, never perhaps excelled the natural grandeur of this horse. A man of moderate size seemed to shrink under his fore end, which rose so perfectly upright, that his ears stood (as Mr. Bakewell says every horse's ears ought to stand) perpendicularly over his fore feet. It may be said, with little latitude, that for grandeur and symmetry of form, viewed as a picturable object, he exceeded as far the horse which this superior breeder had the honour of shewing to his Majesty, and which was afterwards shewn publicly some months in London, as that horse does the meanest of the breed. Nor was his form deficient in utility. He died in 1783, at the age of nineteen years\*."

The *breed of hogs, raising of fences, mode of collecting and distributing manure†, planting, draining, implements of husbandry, watering of cattle, and watering land*, were all objects of care and system at Dishley. Each was attended to, and each was adapted to its respective office and use. The common custom of having a large or small open pool of water in every inclosure, Mr. Bakewell found to be very inconvenient, and often dangerous to cattle; to remedy which he first railed the pools round, to prevent the animals getting further in than was necessary to drink; and afterwards he used troughs in every field. His mode of *irrigation* is thus fully described by Mr. Marshall‡.

“ Mr.

\* Rural Economy of the Midland Counties, Vol. I. p. 308.

† His system of manuring has been much opposed, and with every appearance of reason. Yard dung was the chief manure he employed; but this was not thrown over the grounds in the usual way, being kept in heaps in the yard, till drained quite dry. In this state it was distributed: but having lost all its putridinous quality by drainage and evaporation, it became nearly useless. The principles of manuring are very satisfactorily and chemically defined in a small volume by *Richard Kirwan, Esq.* 8vo. 1796, fourth edition, where the author asserts that the water which issues from farm-yard dung should be preserved.

‡ Rural Economy of the Midland Counties, Vol. I. p. 284.

"Mr. Bakewell, of Dishley, stands first in this quarter of the kingdom as an improver of *grass land by watering*. Formerly, a suite of meadows, lying by the banks of the Soar, received considerable benefit from the water of the river being judiciously spread over them in the times of the floods. But now, not only these meadows, but near one hundred acres, I believe, of higher land, lying entirely out of the way of natural floods, are watered on this modern principle. Mr. Bakewell, like a man of experience in business, before he set about this great work, studied the art on the principal scene of practice, the West of England, where he spent some days with the ingenious Mr. Boswell, who some years ago published a treatise on the subject. The great stroke of management in this department of Mr. Bakewell's practice, which marks his genius in strong characters, is that of diverting to his purpose a rivulet, or small brook, whose natural channel skirts the farthest boundary of his farm, falling, with a considerable descent, down a narrow valley, in which its utility, as a source of improvement to land, was confined. This rivulet is therefore turned at the highest place that could be commanded, and carried, in the canal manner, round the point of a swell, which lies between its natural bed and the farmery; by the execution of this admirable thought, not only commanding the skirts of the hill as a site of improvement by watering, but supplying, by this artificial brook, the house and farm offices with water; filling from it a drinking pool for horses and cattle, and converting it to a multitude of other purposes, one of which is too valuable to be passed without distinction. Mr. Bakewell, three years ago, was endeavouring to invent a flat-bottomed boat, or barge, to navigate his turnips from the field to the cattle-sheds; but, finding this not easily practicable, his great mind struck out, or rather *caught*, the beautifully simple idea of launching the turnips themselves into the water, and letting them float down singly with the current! "We throw them in, and bid them meet us at the Barn End!" where he is now (October, 1789) contriving a reservoir, or dry ditch, for them to sail into, with a grate at the bottom to let out the water, but retaining



taining the turnips, which will there be laid up clean-washed, and freight free, as a supply in frosty weather. Mr. Bakewell's improvements, in this department of rural affairs, are not only extensive, but high; and are rendered more striking by "proof pieces," (a good term for experimental patches) left in each site of improvement. Mr. Bakewell is, in truth, a master in the art; and Dishley, at present, a school in which it might be studied with singular advantage."

Though it is evident that Mr. Bakewell, and his plan of breeding and agriculture, were generally entitled to commendation, yet the one has had envious rivals, and the other serious opponents. Having been pretty copious in explaining his merits, it will be no more than justice to exhibit some of the arguments employed to prove his defects; for the biographer does not fulfil his duty who dwells only on excellencies, and confines himself to the flattering terms of panegyric. As the human mind must ever be imperfect, and liable to error, the language of truth should describe it as it is, not as wished to be.

"Mr. Bakewell's cattle, selected and reared with immense care and cost, assumed that stately and beautiful appearance which charmed a whole country, where such a sight was perfectly novel; and the cultivators, being admitted in the critical moment of the animals' bite, were equally ready either to be duped or instructed. The idea was new, and the *rationale* of it centered in the invention and judgment of a single enterprising individual. It could not be supposed that his purchasers and disciples were first rate judges of the true lines of animal proportion, or that they could artfully and scientifically combine the ideas of beauty and utility: for it is well known, that these are extremely variable and uncertain among our cattle-fanciers. The truth is, a large quantity of beautiful and valuable stock was distributed about the country from Dishley; and of this there was no small share, the sole value of which consisted in a sleek and bulky appearance, conferred solely by the great care and expense of the breeder. These animals having cost the purchasers, or those who hired them, considerable

considerable sums, it was a necessary consequence that their produce would be valuable in proportion: and Bakewell shrewdly observed, "that the only way to have capital stock is to keep the price high." In aid of these natural and legitimate causes of the high prices of the Dishley breed, others were superadded, which, although but too common in all matters of bargain and sale, are not considered as being so candid. A sort of monopoly was created among the fraternity of improvers, who adopted all the arts, and put in practice all the tricks, of jockies and horse-dealers. Sham contracts and purchases were made at wonderful high prices; puffers were regularly engaged to spirit up the buyers at auctions; and a young lord, or gentleman, with his pockets well lined, and his senses intoxicated by the fumes of improvement, was as sure to be imposed upon by these as by the gentry at Newmarket. The pens of itinerant agriculturists, whose knowledge of live stock originated merely in their writing about it, now took up the cause, and blazoned forth the transcendent qualities of the "new Leicesters." In consequence of this, the country began to consider these oracular decisions as orthodox: Not so the Town. The sages of Smithfield, before whom the fatted animals of all counties pass in hebdomadal review, and who try the merits of all by the unerring standard of the balance, although they were compelled to purchase the commodity, never approved the *barrel-shape*, or the Dishley improvements. They pretend, at this hour, that the original breed of Leicester sheep was more advantageous, in point of public utility, than the new one; and that the Lincoln, a branch of the ancient family of Teeswater, is, in respect to form, superior to all. They do not even scruple to assert, that the feeding of Dishley stock has never fairly repaid the cultivator. It is certain that Mr. Bakewell was not enriched, notwithstanding his unremitting exertions, the admirable economy of his farms, and the vast sums which he obtained for his cattle. But this is to be attributed entirely to the generous style of hospitality which he constantly maintained at Dishley; where every inquisitive stranger was received and ente-

tained



tained with the most frank and liberal attention. The expanded heart of this man demanded more capacious means for the gratification of its generous desires; and it is evident, from his conduct, that he was ambitious rather of the honour, than the profit of his calling\*."

Dishley was always noted for the cheering hospitality with which all intelligent and inquiring persons were treated. Every thing about the farm was arranged with admirable order, and at the same time so calculated as to satisfy curiosity. Even the shew of the cattle was conducted with the most pleasing and interesting regularity. The sheep were exhibited singly in a small house, adapted to that purpose, having two opposite doors, one for admission, the other for retreat; and the inferior were always introduced first, that the imagination of the inspector might be raised by degrees to the utmost pitch at the exhibition of the last and finest.

From the foregoing particulars, the reader will be enabled to appreciate the character of Mr. Bakewell, who, after devoting an active and industrious life to a laudable profession, which proved to him an endless source of pleasure, died, after a tedious illness, October 1, 1795, and was buried in Dishley church. He was never married. In person he was tall, broad in the chest and shoulders, and, in his general figure, exactly tallying with our ideas of the respectable old English yeoman. His manners had a rustic, yet polite and pleasing frankness, which rendered him acceptable to all ranks.

BEAUMANOR is the name of an extensive manor, situated in a fertile vale, on the eastern side of the forest of Charnwood, in the parish of Barrow. This, with a large mansion, belong to *William Herrick*, Esq. whose ancestors have possessed the place from the year 1594-5, when it was purchased from the agents of Robert, Earl of Essex, by *WILLIAM HEYRICKE*, Esq. of London, who in the next year held a court here. This gentleman was born at  
Leicester,

\* Annual Necrology, 1800.

Leicester, about the year 1557, and had a spacious house in Wood-street, London, another in Westminster, and another at Richmond; yet, according to a memorandum found among his papers, he "resided constantly at Court." He was particularly favoured by Queen Elizabeth, and by James the First. The former sent him on an embassy to the Ottoman Porte: and, on his return, he was appointed to a lucrative office in the Exchequer, and held several other places of honour and trust. It is evident he acquired considerable riches, as many of the nobility, and even the monarch\*, borrowed money of him. In the reign of James, however, he petitioned the Lord Mayor of London to excuse him from serving the office of alderman; and alledged as a reason, that the king owed him so much money, as rendered him incapable of supporting the usual expenses of that civic honour. He was ordered to pay a fine of 300*l.* and excused. He made a present, among other things, of a *portrait* of Sir THOMAS

VOL. IX.

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WHITE,

\* The following state letter, addressed to Mr. Heyrick by order of Queen Elizabeth, is a curious specimen of the style of writing, and state of the nation in 1596-7. "By the Queene. Trustie and wel-belovied, we greete yow well. The contynuall greate charges w<sup>ch</sup> wee have, for the necessarie defence of and preservacon of o<sup>r</sup> dominions and subiectes, are so notorious as neede not to be otherwise declared then may iustlie be conceaved by all our loving subiects, being but of comon understanding. And therefore, at this presente, finding cause of increase and contynuaunce of suche charges exceeding all other ordinary meanes; and not mynding to presse o<sup>r</sup> subiects w<sup>th</sup> anie presente free gifte of monie, but only to be supplied w<sup>th</sup> some reasonable pencon by waie of loane for onne yeare's space; wee have made specielle choice of such o<sup>r</sup> loving subiectes as are knowne to be of abiletie; amongst w<sup>ch</sup> we accompte yow one; and therefore we require yow, by these presentes, to lend us the some of *fiftie poundes* for the space of one yeare, and the same to be payde unto Benedict Barnham or Thomas Looe, aldermen, by us appointed as collectors thereof, w<sup>ch</sup> we promise to repaye to yow or yo<sup>r</sup> assignes, at the end of one yeare, in the receipte of o<sup>r</sup> Exchequer, upon giving of this privie seale subscribed by the said collectors, testifying the receipte thereof. Geven under o<sup>r</sup> privie seale at o<sup>r</sup> palace of Westm<sup>r</sup>, the xxvi<sup>th</sup> daie of January, in the xxxix<sup>th</sup> yeare of o<sup>r</sup> raign.

THO. KERY.<sup>m</sup>



WHITE, to the corporation of Leicester. In the year 1605, he was knighted at Greenwich, and, after sustaining many public offices and trusts, died March 2, 1652-3, and was buried in St. Martin's church at Leicester\*.

An inventory of glass in the windows of the house at Beaumanor, in 1599, shews the prices of windows at that period, and the names of some of the apartments: "In the parlour a glasse window, 10s.—The glass in Mr. Adrian Stock's chamber, 3s.—In my Lady Frogmorton's chamber, the glasses 5s.—The glasse in the nursery chamber, 2s.—The glasse in the duke's chamber, 6s. 8d.—The glasse in the great chamber, 1s. 8d.—The glasse in the hallate, 5s.—The glasse in the pawcing place, 1s. 6d." &c.

Beauman was part of the queen's jointure in 1621, when the fee-farm rent of 34l. 14s. 9d. was paid by Sir William Heyricke. In 1656, it is thus described: "This ancient manor-house of Beaumanor standeth, and is seated in the park called Beaumanor-Park. The manor-house is moated round about with a very fair and clear moat; and a little distant from the said moat are barns and stables, and all other useful offices standing and seated; about which said building is a second moat, and round about this said ancient manor-house lieth the said park," &c. The latter was disparked by Sir William Heyrick, and, in 1690, the greater part of the timber trees were cut down.

The park and scenery of Beaumanor are justly extolled by Mr. Throsby and Mr. Nichols, for picturesque beauty, combined with serenity and sublimity of character. Large timber trees of oak, ash, elm, and willow, are still abundant; and many very large trunks of the former were cut down some years back, for the use of the Navy, measuring twenty-two feet and upwards in circumference. In the place of the old manor-house, a new one was erected in 1725. In the great hall is a curious *chair*, cut out  
of

\* Nichols's Hist. of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 150, &c. where is a portrait of Sir William, and many curious particulars respecting him, and the times when he lived.

of one solid oak tree, which measured thirty-four feet in circumference. Among several portraits, is one of *King James the First*, and another of his consort, Queen Anne of Denmark, both originals, and presented by the Monarch to Sir William Heyrick.

At BRADGATE are the ruins of an old mansion, which was formerly magnificent and spacious. The place was parcel of the manor of Groby, and belonged, at an early period, to Hugh Grentesmainell, from whom it passed, by marriage, to Robert Blanchmains, Earl of Leicester, and afterwards, by marriage again, to Saher de Quency, Earl of Winton. A park was here in 1247, when Roger de Quency, Earl of Winton, granted permission, by written agreement, to Roger de Somery, to "enter at any hour on the forest of him the earl, to chace in it (*ad versandum*) with nine bows and six hounds, according to the form of a cyrograph before made, between the aforesaid Roger, Earl of Winton, and Hugh de Albaniaco, Earl of Arundel, in the court of the Lord the King at Leicester. And if any wild beast, wounded by any of the aforesaid bows, shall enter the aforesaid park by any deer-leap, or otherwise, it shall be lawful for the aforesaid Roger de Somery, and his heirs, to send one man, or two of his, who shall follow the aforesaid wild beast, with the dogs pursuing that wild beast, within the aforesaid park, without bow and arrows, and may take it on that day whereon it was wounded, without hurt of other wild beasts in the aforesaid park abiding; so that if they be footmen they shall enter by some deer-leap, or hedge; and if they be horsemen, they shall enter by the gate, if it shall be open; and otherwise shall not enter before they wind their horn for the keeper, if he will come\*."

The park, in Leland's time, was "vi miles in cumpase," and the foundation and walls of "a greate gate-house of brike" were left unfinished when this tourist visited Bradgate. He also states,

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that

\* This agreement is printed at length, in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 661.



that Thomas, the first Marquis of Dorset, erected, and "almost finished ij toures of brike in the fronte of the house, as respondent on eche side to the gate-house\*." The ruins of this venerable, and once dignified mansion, with the forest scenery around, are highly picturesque. A correspondent to Mr. Nichols says, that "traces of the tilt-yard are still visible: and the courts are now occupied by rabbits, and shaded with chesnut trees and mulberries."

Contiguous to the mansion is a chapel, in which is a handsome monument for HENRY LORD GREY of Groby, and his lady: beneath an arch on the monument is a figure in armour, of the nobleman, and another of his wife, and the front and summit are decorated with the armorial bearings and quarterings of the families of Grey, Hastings, Valence, Ferrers of Groby, Astley, Widvile, Bouvile, and Harrington. LADY JANE GREY, a native of this place, was born in 1537. She was the eldest daughter of Henry Grey, Marquis of Dorset, and Duke of Suffolk, by Frances, eldest daughter of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. The wife of the latter was Mary, Queen Dowager to Louis XII. of France, and youngest daughter of Henry the Seventh of England. Jane Grey was married to Lord Guildford Dudley, son of the Duke of Northumberland. She was prevailed on to accept the British crown, but reigned only nine days, when she and her husband were imprisoned in the Tower; and soon afterwards both were beheaded, by command of Queen Mary, in 1554. Thus she fell a sacrifice to the ambition of her relatives, at the early age of seventeen; and all authors who have written about her life, or times, have indiscriminately portrayed her as a paragon of excellence and merit. Though it may be deemed irrelevant to the nature of this work to investigate and minutely detail such subjects, yet a few cursory remarks, it is hoped, will not be extraneous, or useless. Lady Jane Grey, afterwards Lady Dudley, according to her own statement, was treated with great rigour by her parents, who employed Roger Ascham and Dr. Aylmer to instruct her in the

\* Itinerary, Vol. I. p. 19, 21.

the usual education of the times; and, in the routine of instruction, the Protestant Religion constituted an essential part. Indeed, if we estimate her character by her own writings, we shall infer, that the scriptures, and religious books, were the chief subjects of her study and solicitude. Her tutors, however, panegyrised her learning, and the Martyrologists and Protestant advocates (for religion then engrossed the minds of men) descanted on her virtues, meekness, humility, and "godliness." Subsequent writers have admitted, and repeated, nearly the whole of these encomiums. Bigots and enthusiasts never discriminate, and from such writers we are not likely to obtain plain facts and "unvarnished truth!" If full credit be given to the statement of her tutors, Ascham and Aylmer\*, she was one of the most extraordinary females that ever lived in this, or any other country. They relate, that their pupil, at the age of sixteen, understood the Greek, Latin, French, and Italian languages, and was also acquainted with the Hebrew, Chaldee, and Arabic. It is further asserted, that she played on several musical instruments, and sometimes accompanied the tunes with her voice: and added to these accomplishments the advantage of writing a fine hand, and excelling in various kinds of needle work. Such transcendent attainments seem to exceed the bounds of credibility, and are nearly allied to those monkish romances of saints and martyrs, invented by craft, to impose on credulity. The historical interest attached to the memory of this lady, and the engaging accounts that have been given of her meekness, amiableness, and learning, combining with the afflicting and inhuman circumstance of her murder, all conspire to rouse our feelings, and excite our sympathies in her behalf: but we must not allow these emotions to impose

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on,

\* Dr. Aylmer, flying from Henry the Eighth, and the court, found an asylum at Bradgate, and a friend and patron in the Marquis of Dorset. "He was for some time the only preacher in Leicestershire, where he so effectually fixed the Protestant Religion, that neither force nor fraud could blot it out." Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 667. Strype's Life of Aylmer, p. 9.



on, and deceive our judgments, if we wish to ascertain and clearly comprehend the history of human actions, and of human powers. That nature occasionally produces phenomena, is evident; but the instances are very rare: it is more commonly the case, that craft, folly, or infatuated zeal, magnifies and exaggerates common effects into wonders. That Lady Jane was very learned for her age, and the times in which she lived, that she was amiable in manners, and truly unfortunate, are all circumstances extremely probable and admissible; but the indiscriminating and garrulous encomiums of Roger Ascham, her preceptor, and afterwards Queen Elizabeth's schoolmaster, do not command implicit credit\*, nor, should we take such evidence alone, for historical data.

CASTLE DONINGTON, a large village on the northern verge of the county, was described, in the time of Edward the Second, as the castle, town, manor, and honor of Donington, and was granted by that monarch to Hugh le Despenser, junior. In this village are the remains of an *hospital*, and a small fragment of the castle, with the vallum. The church is spacious, and has a large chancel, also a lofty steeple; and within is a fine altar monument of alabaster, with the statues of a man in armour, and woman. In this parish is

DONINGTON PARK, a seat of the *Earl of Moira*. This fine demesne was noted for extensive woods at the time of compiling the Domesday Book, wherein it is stated that—"In *Dunitone* there is a wood twelve furlongs long, and eight broad." From the time of the conquest this manor continued the property of the Barons of Haulton, till 1310, when it was conveyed in marriage to Thomas Plantagenet, Earl of Lancaster, Leicester, and Derby. It came to the Hastings family by purchase, in 1594; and, in 1789, was

\* In delineating this, or any other character, the writer is wholly influenced by a love of truth, and a desire to exercise his own and the reader's rational faculties, in investigating the obscurities and improbabilities of biographical, political, and statistical history.



DONINGTON PARK  
Seat of the Earl of Leicester  
Leicestershire.

Engraved by J. Sturt from a Drawing by J. H. Thompson, after a Plan by W. Robinson Esq. Architect

See also Donington in England and Wales





was bequeathed, by Francis, the last Earl of Huntingdon, to Francis, Lord Rawdon, now *Earl of Moira*. This truly patriotic and munificent nobleman has made very extensive and important improvements on the estate, since the above period, and, among these, has erected a new mansion, on a large and liberal scale. This was raised after the designs of Mr. William Wilkins, of Cambridge, and is described in the following terms in a recent work. "The present house, which has been lately erected by his lordship, stands in a plain, formed by the union of three delightful vallies, which radiate from the spot in the direction of east, south, and south-west. The situation is, notwithstanding, considerably above the general level of the country. The style of the front and entrance-hall is Gothic, adapted by a plan suggested by his lordship, as most fitting to the scenery of the place. The house is equally convenient for the residence of either a large or small family; perhaps few are better calculated for the purposes of exercising the rights of hospitality, in which the noble possessor vies with his feudal ancestors. The principal rooms, namely, the Gothic hall 24 feet square, the dining-room 48 by 24 feet, the anti-chamber and the drawing-room 40 by 24 feet, have a southern aspect; the library 72 by 26 feet, looks towards the west; and the breakfast parlour towards the east. On this side a wing extends, in which is the chapel, 58 by 20 feet, and it is so situated as to screen the offices. The various offices on the ground-floor, on the north side, are very little below the common level of the ground, although the vaults under the south side are entirely sunk, and are appropriated to the butler's department\*." The house is built of stone, and surrounds a court-yard. Many of the apartments in this elegant mansion are decorated with pictures, several of which are interesting, as specimens of art, and as portraits of illustrious characters. Among the latter are *PORTRAITS of King Edward the Fourth.—George, Duke of Clarence*, his brother, an

C c 4

half

\* New Vitruvius Britannicus, Vol. II. See two good Views of the House in Nichols's Leicestershire,



half length, in mail armour.—*Cardinal Pole*, Anno. 1557. Æt. 57.—*Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk*, 1544. Æt. 64, by Holbein.—*Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester*.—*Jane Shore*.—*Jaqueline, Dutchess of Hainault*, who was married to Humphry, Duke of Gloucester, 1. Henry VI. 1423. This is described by Mr. Nichols as a curious and remarkable portrait in several respects.—*Francis, second Earl of Huntingdon*, Knight of the Garter, three quarters.—*Henry, third Earl of Huntingdon*, Knight of the Garter, half length.—*Henry, fifth Earl of Huntingdon*, in his coronation robes, by Vansomer, 1614. Æt. 28.—*Theophilus, seventh Earl of Huntingdon*, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, half length.—*George, eighth Earl of Huntingdon*, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, half length.—*Theophilus, ninth Earl of Huntingdon*, by Le Bell, whole length.—*Francis, tenth and last Earl of Huntingdon*, by Soldi, half length.—*Henry Hastings, second Lord Loughborough*, by Cornelius Jansen.—*Dr. Harvey*, by Vandyck.—*Sir Daniel Heinsius*, by Mirevelt.—*Sir Thomas Wyatt*.—*Sir John Chardin*.—*Henry, Lord Loughborough*.—*Sir Godfrey Kneller*.—*W. Prynne*, author of *Histriomastix*, 1632.—*Alexander Pope*.—*Edmund Waller*.—*Samuel Butler*.—*Duke of Berwick*, natural son of James the Second; a rare and curious Portrait.—*The Hon. Robert Boyle*, by Sir P. Lely.—*Dean Swift*.—*George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham*, temp. of Charles II. by Sir P. Lely.—*Algernon Percy, Earl of Northumberland*, by Dobson.—*Earl of Derby*, temp. of James the First, by Cornelius Jansen.—*Earl of Warwick*, temp. of Charles the First, by Vandyck.—*Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester*, temp. of Elizabeth, by Porbus. Most of these portraits are in the *dining-room*. Besides these, here are some valuable *miniature heads*, by Isaac Oliver, Hoskins, and Cooper. The principal apartments are also ornamented with some select cabinet pictures, by old masters. As these have never been noticed, I believe, in any publication, I shall give a list of the principal pictures, specifying the rooms wherein they hang.

In the BREAKFAST-ROOM, *Two Landscapes*, by Beschay.—*Dogs and Game*, by Fytt.—*Apollo and Daphne*, by Romanelli.  
*Battle*

—*Battle of the Boyne*, Old Wycke. A long narrow picture, full of bustle, and treated in an interesting manner. The grand and truly excellent picture by Mr. West, of the same subject, must be very generally known, by the excellent print from it by Hall; and it becomes amusing to compare the picture of the Dutch master with that of the English historical painter.—*Head of Cromwell*.—Two small pictures of the *Nativity* and *Transfiguration*, by Zuccarelli.—*Storm at Sea*, by Salvator Rosa; a large and peculiarly fine picture, in which this great master of the art has displayed his unrivalled powers in force and harmony of colouring with impressive and horrific effect.—*Landscape*, Seb. Bourdon.—*Landscape*, De Vadder.—*Two Landscapes*, by Van Goyen.—*Sea Piece*, by Senes.—*A Hungarian Camp* and a *Battle Piece*, by Boudwys and Bout.—*Battle Piece*, by Wouvermans.—*A Port in Holland*, by Storck.

LADIES DRAWING-ROOM. *Waterfall*, by Watteau.—*Virgin and Child*, Pietro Perugino.—*Infant Christ asleep*, Elisabetta Serani.—*Water-Mill*, Paterre.—*Sea Port*, Bartolomeo.—*Dutch Sea Port*, Storck.—*Christ and the Samaritan Woman*, Ludovico Caracci.—*Holy Family*, Palma Vecchio.—*Aaron and the Golden Calf*, Eckhout.—*Two Landscapes*, Brueghel.—*Two Landscapes*, Mams.—*Sea Port*, Occhiagli.—*Two Pictures of Boors*, Teniers.—*Two Views in Rome*, Studio.—*Magdalen's Head*, and another of *St. John's*, Guido.—*Venus*, Titian.—*A Painter drawing a naked Woman*, Schalken.—*Landscape, a Sketch*, Salvator Rosa.—*A Philosopher and a Huckster*, two small pictures, Gerhard Douw.—*Nymphs and Satyrs*, Rubens and Brueghel.—*Seamen Drinking*, Adrian Vander Werf.—*Sportsmen*, Peter Wouvermans.—*Marriage of St. Catharine*, after Corregio.—*Two Landscapes*, by Brueghel.—*Venus and Satyr*, a sketch, Titian.—*Mater Dolorosa*, Carlo Dolce.—*Landscape*, Asselyne.—*Peasants*, Bamboccio.—*Virgin and Child*, Vanucchi.—*Poetry and Painting*, Murillio.—*Dutch Boors*, Ostade.—*A Philosopher*, Quintin Matsys.—*Portrait of the Conde-Duque d'Olvarez*, Velasquez.—*Sea Storm*, Tempesta.—*Landscape*, Gaspar Poussin, in his best style,  
and



and another by the same master ; a very early picture.—*Finding of Moses*, Francisco Milè.—*Two Landscapes*, Poelemburgh.—*Three Pictures*, a *Frost Piece*, a *Night Piece*, and a *Sea Port*, Grevenbroeck. Here are likewise some curious specimens of *painted glass*, part of which was brought from the old chapel of Stoke Pogeis, in Buckinghamshire.

The Park at Donington is celebrated for its fine, old, majestic oaks, and other forest trees ; and the grounds are alternately thrown into bold swells, and sunk into sweeping vallies ; thus presenting, from many stations, scenes of great picturesque beauty and interest. Near the northern extremity of the grounds, is a precipice called *Donington Cliff*, a scene much admired for its romantic and wild features. A bold projecting crag, with hanging woods, and the pellucid waters of the river Trent, constitute a scene peculiarly interesting to the landscape painter ; and has been represented in two large prints, engraved by Vivares, in 1745, from paintings by T. Smith.

DISEWORTH, a small village, about six miles North-west of Loughborough, is the birth-place of WILLIAM LILLY, the astrologer, who was born in May, 1602, and who died June, 1681. This gentleman was one of those "blind buzzards," as Gataker calls him, who first deceive themselves, by an assumption of supernatural powers, and then impose on others, equally silly, by pretending to foretel human events, and to develop the sacred and inscrutable dispensations of Omnipotence. Lilly was for many years in the humble capacity of a footboy, but his diligence, sanctity, or something else, recommended him to his mistress, a widow with a fortune of 1000*l*. This rendered him at ease and independant. He now pursued his favorite study of astrology, and, according to his own acknowledgement, made so rapid a progress in the art, that it seemed supernatural inspiration. He declares, in his account of his life, that "he prayed for several weeks to those angels who were thought and believed by wise men to teach and instruct in all the several liberal sciences. These angels

angels very rarely speak to any operator or master; and when they do speak, it is like the Irish, much in the throat\*." In 1647, he finished a book which he arrogantly and impiously called "Christian Astrology;" but this work does not evince the possession of angelic inspiration. Perhaps the angels either turned a deaf ear to the author's prayers, or dictated in such guttural and Irish tones, as not to be understood by him. It is evident that he considered judicial astrology as a *science*; and it is equally evident, that he exercised his pen in behalf of Cromwell and the parliament†. Astrological predictions and prophecies were well suited to the bigotted phrenzy and folly of those times; and Lilly had enough human cunning to know how to adapt them to the capacities of the populace. Like all other dealers in destiny, he was generally ambiguous and oracular, and amused his disciples with unintelligible hieroglyphics. Many of those, says Aubrey, he stole from a Monkish manuscript. These have again been stolen by Francis Moore, the almanack maker, and by other makers of the same contemptible pamphlets. Lilly, though known to be an imposter, had a pension of 100*l.* a year granted him by the council of state‡. Butler characterizes him under the name of Sidrophel; and Sir John Birkenhead satirized his almanack, by calling it "the Art of discovering all that *never was*, and *never shall be*." Lilly's almanack maintained as high degree of reputation for many years, as the present popular, and almost equally silly annual publication, called "*Vox Stellarum*." "By the profit arising from his great practice among the vulgar in the profession of conjurer, prophet, physician, &c. he acquired a sum sufficient to enable him to purchase a considerable estate at Walton upon Thames, where he died, and was buried in the chancel of the church there. A slab was placed over his remains by Elias Ashmole."

\* Lilly's *Life* by himself, last edit. p. 88.

† "When Cromwell was in Scotland, a soldier stood with Lilly's (Merlinus) Anglicus in his hand, and said to the several troops passed by him, "Lo! hear what Lilly saith, you are *promised victory*, fight it out brave boys," and then read that month's prediction.—*Life*, p. 83.

‡ Thurloe's *State Papers*, Vol. V. p. 431.



Ashmole\*." A portrait of him is preserved in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. Besides his almanack, which was published for thirty-six years successively, he printed several other works on Astrology, &c. Mr. Nichols gives a list of twenty.

GARENDON, the seat of Thomas March Phillips, Esq. is about four miles north of Loughborough. The present mansion occupies the site of an *Abbey*, which was founded by Robert Bossu, the good earl of Leicester, in 1133, for Cistercian, or White Monks. This abbey was very liberally endowed and supported, as may be inferred from the number of *granges* attached to it. These were at *Dishley*, *Burton*, *Goddey*, *Ringlethorpe*, *Sysonby*, *Aulton*, *Staunton*, *Ravenston*, and *Haliwell* in the county of Leicester; *Rampeston* and *Cortingstock* in Nottinghamshire, and *Heathcote* in the Peak of Derby.

The church belonging to the abbey was demolished soon after the dissolution, and all its furniture and materials sold. The following are the prices given for some articles:

"Item, 2 Wyndowes glasyd with old glasse in the quyer, 120 fott—1l. 0. 0."

By the inventory, there appears to have been twelve more windows, the glass of which sold at the same rate. There were also six altars, or "Auters," and a chapel.

"A monument of alabaster, 0l. 10s. 0d. The pavement of the quyer with bryke, 13s. 4d.

"A Masse boke and a bell, 1s.—An Auter Stone, 1s. 0d."

The Lordships of Garendon and Shepeshed were purchased in 1683, by *Ambrose Phillips*, Esq. an eminent counsellor of the Middle Temple, for the sum of 28,000l. This gentleman was knighted by King James, and was buried at Shepeshed Church, where an handsome monument is erected to his memory. Ambrose Phillips, a nephew of the above knight, after travelling over several parts of the Continent, settled at Garendon, and built in the park here an handsome gateway, in imitation of a triumphal arch, also a Circular Temple to Venus and an Obelisk. He designed

\* Nichols's Hist. of Leicestershire, III. p. 752.

designed the magnificent garden front of the present House, which was built by his brother and successor Samuel Phillips, Esq. merchant; on the death of whose widow it passed to his maternal cousin, the present Mr. — Phillips.

LOCKINGTON HALL, the seat of the Rev. Philip Story, is a modern mansion situated near the turnpike road, about two miles north-west of Kegworth. Here are several good family portraits and some other pictures. The late and present possessors have greatly improved the scenery of the place.

#### KEGWORTH,

Anciently written *Cogeworde*, is a town on the great turnpike road, six miles north of Loughborough, and eleven south of Derby. In the year 1289, King Edward the first granted to *Robert de Hausted* and Margery his wife, the privilege of a market on Tuesdays, and two annual fairs, at this place. It appears that there were only sixty-eight families in Kegworth in the year 1564, and in 1575 a *free school* was founded here by a decree from Queen Elizabeth. About 2000 acres of land were inclosed in this parish, in consequence of an Act of parliament passed in 1778, when two Miss Bainbrigge's were acknowledged to be ladies of the manor; and the master, fellows, &c. of Christ College in Cambridge (connected with Frederick Augustus, Earl of Berkeley, under certain restrictions), as patrons of the rectory. The market at Kegworth is nearly discontinued. In 1800 the town contained 262 houses and 1360 inhabitants.

The church is a handsome, light building, with a nave, aisles, transeps, chancel, and tower with a spire. Most of the windows are large, with two mullions and tracery; and some of them have pieces and complete figures of *painted glass*. On the south side of the chancel are three *stone seats* or *stalls*, with the seat on one plane, and ornamented with purfled pinnacles, foliated pediments, &c.

At



At **LANGLEY**, "a beautiful sequestered lordship," was founded a *priory* for Benedictine nuns at a very early period, and at the dissolution the site and demesne lands were demised to Thomas Gray. From a descendant of this gentleman, Langley priory, since called **LANGLEY HALL**, was bought by Richard Cheslyn, Esq. for 7769l. 17s. 6d. and now belongs to Richard Cheslyn, Esq. a descendant of the above. The house is situated in a sequestered spot in a low situation, and consists of three sides of a quadrangle. Parts of the building appear to be remnants of the priory, and withinside are many family portraits.

**ROTHLEY** is a considerable village on the turnpike road between Loughborough and Leicester, and is distant from each of those towns about five miles. This place anciently belonged to the Knights Templars, who had a temple here. The manor house now called Rothley Temple, belongs to Thomas Babington, Esq. Lord of the manor. This manor is extensive, and is invested with peculiar jurisdiction in ecclesiastical affairs; being free from all higher courts, and, as the lord of the manor can grant licences of marriage, is exempt from the jurisdiction and visitation of the Bishop of the diocese. "The custom of *Gavelkind* prevails throughout the soke; a sokeman's widow holds all her husband's real property therein, so long as she continues such; and the lord receives an alienation fine for every first purchase made by a foreigner, i. e. a non-sokeman. These several privileges are holden in virtue of a patent of the land heretofore of the Knights Templars, and afterwards of the Knights Hospitalers, who originally enjoyed it by special and express words conveyed by the patent; which, with all its privileges, was conveyed to the ancestor of the present owner. The Soke of Rothley enjoys moreover the privileges of court-leet, court-baron, &c. oyer, terminer, and gaol delivery, independent of the county\*."

In 1722, a *Roman Pavement*, with foundations of a floor,  
walls,

\* Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 955.

walls, &c. were discovered near Rothley. The church is a large, ancient pile, and in the inside are some curious old monuments; also an ancient low *font*. In the church-yard is the shaft of a *stone cross*, the four sides of which are decorated with fanciful sculpture of scrolls, tracery, &c.

At THURCASTON, a small village about four miles from Leicester, in East Goscote hundred, was born, about the year 1470, *Hugh Latimer*, D. D. This zealous divine was, at the commencement of his ministerial career, an enthusiastic Papist; but deserting the doctrines and tenets of the Catholic church, afterwards adopted and powerfully enforced the Protestant Religion. He was advanced to the See of Worcester, and in 1549 preached a sermon before King Edward the Sixth, wherein he gives the following account of himself, his family, and the value of farms, &c. at that period:

“ My father was a yeoman, and had no lands of his own; only he had a farm of three or four pounds by the year at the uttermost, and hereupon he tilled so much as kept half a dozen men. He had walk for an hundred sheep; and my mother milked thirty kine. He was able, and did find the king a harness, with himself and his horse, while he came to the place that he should receive the king's wages. I can remember, that I buckled his harness, when he went to Blackheath field. He kept me to school, or else I had not been able to have preached before the king's majesty now. He married my sisters with five pounds, or twenty nobles, a piece; so that he brought them up in godliness and fear of God. He kept hospitality for his poor neighbours, and some alms he gave to the poor; and all this he did of the said farm; where he that now hath it, payeth sixteen pounds by the year or more, and is not able to do any thing for his prince, for himself, nor for his children, or give a cup of drink to the poor.”

At the time Latimer excited popular attention in promoting the reformation, Bilney was equally or more zealous in the same cause. These two at length so far provoked the rage of the intolerant



intolerant Catholics, that both were apprehended, and sentenced to be burnt as heretics; Bilney at Norwich, and Latimer with Dr. Ridley at Oxford.

SHEPESHED is a large village, four miles west of Loughborough. By an Act passed in 1777, for dividing and inclosing certain lands within this parish, to the extent of about 2000 acres, Sir William Gordon, in right of dame Mary Gordon his wife, is described as Lord of the manor and patron of the vicarage and parish. A very large stocking manufactory is established here, which, exclusive of combers, spinners, &c. is supposed to employ 400 persons in frame work knitting only. In the middle of the village is a *stone cross* of a single shaft, standing on steps. Here are three meeting houses: one for Mr. Wesley's followers, one for Anabaptists, and one for Quakers. In 1801 Shepeshed contained 485 houses and 2627 inhabitants. In the church are some monuments, with long inscriptions to Sir Ambrose Phillips, Knt. and other persons of the same family.

At ULVESCROFT, in Charnwood forest, was a *priory*, or, as commonly but improperly called, an Abbey. The church, or chapel, is in ruins; and the priory house, which has been altered, is now occupied by a farmer. The situation of the house is sequestered in a deep valley, by the side of a brook; and the combination of ruins, trees, &c. presents various scenes of picturesque beauty.

At WANLIP, five miles north of Leicester, was found a *Roman tessellated Pavement*, with coins of Constantine, broken Urns, &c. Here is an handsome modern house, called WANLIP HALL, belonging to Sir Charles Grave Hudson, Bart. F. R. S. who inherits it in right of his first lady. The house, built of brick and stuccoed, is situated near the river Soar, and is fitted up, and the pleasure grounds laid out, with much taste. Near the mansion is the neat village church.

**EAST GOSCOTE HUNDRED** is separated from the former hundred by the river Soar on its western side, and has Nottinghamshire for a northern boundary, whilst the hundreds of Frammland and Gartre, with a small part of Rutlandshire, bound it to the east and south. Part of this district is occupied by the Wolds, or Woulds; and it is divided into two, nearly equal, parts by the river Wreke which crosses it from east to west. There is not one market-town in this hundred, and but few places that present any curious or important facts for the historian or antiquary. At Segs-hill, at a place near Radcliff, and again a little to the north of Thurmaston, are some *tumuli*, all contiguous to the Foss road, which crosses this district. The cross roads are generally in very bad condition. Towards the north part of the hundred are some high grounds, and at the south-eastern end, joining Rutlandshire, are some considerable woods, the remains of *Leisfield forest*. A turnpike road from Leicester to Newark, and another from the former place to Melton Mowbray, passes through the whole of this hundred from south to north.

Mr. Nichols gives the following list of townships in this hundred, and specifies the peculiarity of each clerical living. Some of these have already been described in the former hundred.

*Allexton*, a rectory.

*Asfordby*, a rectory.

*Ashby Folville*, a vicarage; including the hamlets of *Baresby* and *Newbold Folville*.

*Barkby*, a vicarage; including the hamlets of *Barkbythorpe*, *Hamilton*, and the north end of *Thurmaston*.

*Barrow*, a vicarage; including the chapelries of *Mountsorell* (the north end), *Quorndon*, and *Woodhouse*, and the mansion and park of *Beaumanor*,

*Charley*, *Alderman's-Haw*, and *Maplewell*.

*Beby*, a rectory.

*Belgrave*, a vicarage; including the chapelries of *Burstall*, and the south end of *Thurmaston*.

*Brooksby*, a rectory.

*Cossington*, a rectory.

*Croxton, South*, a rectory.

*Dalby Magna*, a vicarage.

*Dalby on the Woulds*, a donative.

*Frisby on the Wreke*, a vicarage.

*Gaddesby*,



*Gaddesby*, with *Caldwell*, *Grimstone*, *Keame*, the south end of *Mountsorell*, *Wartnaby*, and *Wykeham*, are chapelries belonging to *Rothley*.

*Hoby*, a rectory.

*Humberstone*, a vicarage.

*Hungarton*, a vicarage; including the hamlets of *Baggrave* and *Ingarsby* (in Gartre hundred) and *Quenby Hall*. To this vicarage that of *Twysford* (including the chapelry of *Thorpe Sacheville*) is also united.

*Laund Abbey*, extraparochial.

*Lodington*, a rectory.

*Loseby*, a vicarage; including the hamlet of *Newton Burdet*, or *Old Newton*.

*Prestwold*, a vicarage; including the hamlets of *Burton*, *Cotes*, and *Hoton*.

*Quenbyborow*, a vicarage.

*Radcliffe on the Wreke*, a rectory.

*Rakedale*, a perpetual curacy; including the manor of *Wilghes*.

*Saxulby*, a rectory; including the chapelry of *Shouldby*.

*Segrave*, a rectory.

*Sileby*, a vicarage.

*Skeffington*, a rectory.

*Syston*, a vicarage.

*Thrussington*, a vicarage.

*Tilton*, a vicarage; including the hamlets of *Halsted*, *South Markfield*, and *Whatborough*.

*Tugby*, a vicarage; including the hamlets of *Keythorpe* (in Gartre Hundred) and *East Norton*.

*Walton on the Wolds*, a rectory.

*Wymeswold*, a vicarage."

**BROOKSBY**, in ancient writings called *Brochesbi* and *Brokesbi*, though formerly a village, is now reduced to a gentleman's house and farm. This demesne belonged to the Villiers family for many generations. Of this family was **GEORGE VILLIERS**, *Duke of Buckingham*, who was born here August 28th, 1592, and who was memorable in English history for having been the favourite of two kings, &c. He was the youngest son of Sir George Villiers, by a second wife, Mary, daughter of Anthony Beaumont, Esq. of Cole-Orton, in this county. Young Villiers attracted the attention and excited the admiration of King James at an early period, and proved himself one of those supple and insinuating courtiers who can condescend to flatter the vices, or follies, of a monarch,

monarch, or any person of superior fortune, to promote his own interests. This, Villiers did to an amazing extent, and was progressively advanced in dignity from a commoner to a dukedom. Sir Henry Wotton quaintly remarks, that favours poured upon him "liker main showers, than sprinkling drops or dews." Hume gives the following character of him, by stating, that he "governed, with an uncontrouled sway, both the court and nation; and, could James's eyes have been opened, he had now full opportunity of observing how unfit his favourite was for the high station to which he was raised. Some accomplishments of a courtier he possessed: of every talent of a minister he was utterly devoid. Headlong in his passions, and incapable equally of prudence or of dissimulation; sincere from violence rather than candour; expensive from profusion more than generosity; a warm friend, a furious enemy; but without any choice or discernment in either; with these qualities he had early and quickly mounted to the highest rank; and partook at once of the insolence which attends a fortune newly acquired, and the impetuosity which belongs to persons born in high stations, and unacquainted with opposition. Among those who had experienced the arrogance of this overgrown favourite, the Prince of Wales himself had not been entirely spared: and a great coldness, if not an enmity, had, for that reason, taken place between them." Such is the character of an eminent statesman, who exercised those passions and powers for many years. The House of Commons at length had courage to impeach him, and charged him of having united many offices in his own person (a crime that still seems very prevalent); of having bought two of them; of neglecting to guard the seas, in consequence of which several merchant ships had been taken by the enemy; of delivering ships to the French king, in order to serve against the Huguenots; of being employed in the sale of honours and offices; of accepting extensive grants from the crown; of procuring many titles of honour for his kindred; and of administering physic to the late king, without acquainting his physicians. Another charge was, that of extorting 10,000*l.* from the East In-



dia company, &c. The impeachment never came to a determination; and the validity of the charges are left for the investigation and decision of the historian, who being enabled to review past events untrammelled by partiality, bribery, or fear, may, with tolerable safety, pronounce sentence of condemnation, or acquittal, on this public plunderer, as well as on many others. Villiers was at length assassinated by Felton in 1628, and interred in Henry the Seventh's chapel at Westminster\*. His son, *George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham*, was a distinguished profligate in the licentious court of King Charles the second; and, as a consummation and just reward of his vicious career, died a beggar†. He was author of "The Rehearsal," and distinguished himself by his wit and talents as well as by his vices.

COSSINGTON, in some old writings called *Cossentone*, Cosington, Kestyngton, &c. is a large and pleasant village, seated at the confluence of the rivers Wreke and Soar. Here are about forty houses, of which that of the rectory is the principal, and this has some marks of antiquity. Near this is the church, in the chancel of which is a *piscina*, and three *stone seats*.

SOUTH CROXTON, a village about seven miles north-east of Leicester, had formerly a very considerable abbey, which was connected with the priory of *Old Malton*, in Yorkshire; to both of these houses Aldulphus de Braci was a liberal benefactor.

DALBY ON THE WOULDs, so named to distinguish its situation on the high open grounds, near the northern edge of the county, is a village, wherein is a considerable *spring* of *chalybeate* water. This, it is said, will rust through a bar of iron an inch in diameter, in the course of a year. Old Dalby is extra parochial, and

\* A very copious account, both of this nobleman and his son, is given in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 199, &c.

† See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 387.

and amenable to no court. A constable does all the offices of the place. Part of the manor here formerly belonged to the *Earl of Radnor*, in right of his Lady; and his lordship presented to the church of NETHER BROUGHTON, an adjoining rectory, "a paten and chalice of silver, of exquisite taste and design\*."

At FRISBY, a village, nearly in the middle of this hundred, is an ancient *Stone Cross*, with ornamental mouldings on the shaft, standing on three steps: and at a small distance from the town, at a place called *Frisby Hags*, is another shaft, on four circular steps, and known by the name of *Stump Cross*.

QUENBY, or Quenby-Hall, about seven miles north-east of Leicester, has been for many generations in the family of Ashby. Mr. Arthur Young gives the following account of this place, in his *Eastern Tour*:—"Quenby Hall is an old house; but what is very extraordinary, is an admirable structure, being on a very high eminence, finely wooded, that commands all the county: it was formerly the taste to place their seats in the lowest and most unpleasant situations of a whole estate. Mr. Shukbrugh Ashby, when he came to the estate, found the house a mere shell, much out of repair, and the offices in ruin. He has, in a few years, brought the whole into complete order; fitted up all the rooms in a style of great propriety; his furniture rich, and some of it magnificent—and his collection of prints an excellent one. His library superbly filled with the best and most expensive books, in several languages. Around the house is a new terrace, which commands a great variety of prospect; on one side very extensive, over a distant hilly country, and even to the mountains of the Peak. On the other side a beautiful landscape of hanging hills, with scattered wood, shelving into a winding valley, so low that you look down upon it in a very picturesque manner; the sides of the hills all cut into rich inclosures."

D d 3

Quenby-

\* Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. III. p. 256, where is an engraved representation of these two articles.



Quenby-Hall is a substantial, large, commodious, and venerable building, and consists of a centre, with a large lofty hall, and two side wings projecting from each front. The windows are large, and divided into several lights by perpendicular and horizontal stone mullions. The house and estate now belong to Mrs. Latham, relict of the late William Latham, Esq. F. R. S. and one of the coheiresses of the before-mentioned Mr. Shrukbrugh Ashby.

At LAUND, *Launde*, or *Lawnde*, a sequestered spot on the borders of Rutlandshire, was a *Priory*, founded in the reign of Henry the First, by Richard Basset, and Maud his wife, for black canons of the order of St. Augustin. This religious house was liberally endowed with several churches, and parcels of land, all which were confirmed to it by Henry the First; also again by his successor, and other monarchs. The site of the priory, with the manor, buildings, and lands, thereto belonging, were conveyed, after the dissolution, to *Thomas Cromwell*, whom Fuller quaintly calls "the scout master-general" in the act of dissolving the monasteries. This gentleman was created, by Henry the Eighth, Earl of Essex, and Lord High Chamberlain of England, and was particularly active in promoting the overthrow of the monks. In advising the king to marry Anne, daughter of the Duke of Cleves, and by zealously accelerating that union, he excited the enmity of the lustful, cruel monarch, who, in spite of the artfully hypocritical letter of Cromwell, ordered him to be beheaded on Tower-Hill, the 28th of July, 1540.

Though Cromwell and his emissaries, the commissioners, were very strict in securing the property and effects of the monasteries, yet they were often deceived and cheated, by the superior cunning and contrivances of the monks. This is particularly exemplified in the case of Laund Priory, as appears from the following letter, addressed by Mr. Smyth, owner of a neighbouring lordship, to his friend Francis Cave, dated Dec. 22, 1538.

"My heartie commendacons to you premysed, this is to advertise

vertise you, that uppon Wenyday last I recevyd your letter; and syns the recypt thereof I have indevored myself to the best of my power according to theeffecte therof. And as concerning the priory of Lawnd, I have caused too honest persons to viewe the demeynes of the same. And wheras the said demeynes, with Whatboro felde, were wontand accustemyd to kepe this tyme of the yere too thousand sheepe, or very nere, ther be at this daye scant fyve hundrede sheepe; of the wyche I suppose the one half of them be not the prior's. And wheras the said prior was accustymed to keppe uppon his comynes in Loddyngham feld fyve hundred sheepe, there is at this daye not one sheepe. And wheras the said prior was accustymed to have uppon his comyns in Frysby feld a flocke of sheepe, there is at this day none. And as concerning beyves, all fate beyves, except a very fewe for the house, be sold; and much of the stuf of household is conveyed away (wiche sheepe, beyves, and howshold stuf, was sold and conveyed before the last going of the prior to London, and in the tyme of his beyng ther): but syns hys comyng home I cannot lerne that he hath made awaye any cattall, except certayn of the best milche kye he hade, and one bull, wiche I am informyd he cawsed to be conveyed, the first nyght that he came from London, to Loddington. And as concernyng the plate, the prior told me that he hade made hit away a good whyll agoo, to the intent to have redemyd his howse if it wold have been, except the juells, and plate of chirche, wiche I am informyd remayns styll. And as for his horses, he told me that he had gyven to dyvers of hys servaunts every of them a geldyng, so that I thinke there remayne but a fewe good. And as concerning lecis, I thyncke there be none letten out of the demeynes, except hit be tythes, wich I thyncke were grauntyd but upon condicions; as I suppose the partyes, if they be well examyned, will confesse. And as concerning Loddington, I understand there be dyvers lecis granted of certain clouses and of the mylls ther, wiche I thinck were lykewyse letten but upon condicions, wiche leases were grauntyd before the prior's going to London; but, as I am informyd, thei were not all delyvered tyll the

D d 4

prior's



prior's comyng whom agayne. Syns the prior's return from London, I thyncke, ther were no leycis sealed. Notwithstanding I have perfect knowledge that the prior hathe bene sore in hand with his brether, syns his comyng whom, to have a leace sealyd of all his purchased land in Alstyd and other townes adjoining for on of his kynnesmen; wherunto his brether wyll not agree as yet, because hit is unresonable as his brether report. This is all that I can seye at this tyme; but as I here, so shall I certyfy you. I trust I shall learn more agaynst the kyng's comyssioners comyng. As knowethe the Lorde, who kepe you. From Withcoke, the xxii day of December, by your loving brother, JOHN SMYTH.

The house and estate at Laund belong to John Finch Simpson, Esq. just nominated sheriff of Leicestershire for the year 1808, who has made considerable alterations in the former, and in the adjoining plantations. The house has gables, with large bay windows, and attached to it is a small chapel. The lordship contains about 1400 acres, much of which is well wooded; and portions are let off to grazing and dairy farms. In this district a large quantity of Stilton cheese is annually made.

In the chapel at Laund are two distinct vaults, in one of which are deposited the body of *Gregory Lord Cromwell*, to whose memory there is a mural monument, stating, that he died the 4th day of July, 1551. The original burial-ground is still preserved, planted with trees, as an ornamental shrubbery, and is occasionally used for the interment of tenants of the lordship, and domestics belonging to the manor-house.

In LODINGTON, a small village adjoining Laund, is LODINGTON HALL, the seat of Campbell Morris, Esq. who inherits it from his father. The house is modern, and seated in a fine part of the county. Mr. Nichols describes Lodington as "one of the finest lordships of old inclosure in Leicestershire, and contains about 2000 acres; and a famous wood, called *Reddish Wood*. In the north-east corner of the lordship, in a field about a mile from the mansion

mansion house, (called the *Conduit Close*) is a remarkable building, consisting of a stone roof, which covers two wells, one a square, and the other round; the water stands about two feet deep in each, and is remarkably clear and pure. Hence the water was conveyed to the priory at Laund by leaden pipes, at the distance of a mile, through woodlands. It is situate about two miles from *Houback*, or *Honbank Hill*, in Tilton lordship, a place where there is supposed to have been a *Roman station*; several entrenchments being still perfectly visible to the south," &c. Part of the conduit has been removed. Near the church is a spring, the water of which possesses a strong petrifying quality.

In the large parish of Prestwould, is PRESTWOULD-HALL, the seat of *Charles James Packe*, Esq. It is a large modern mansion, standing in a fine park, and contains several good family portraits, by Vandyck, Sir P. Lely, Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Dahl. Among these are the following Portraits: *Jane Shore*, a good picture, and believed to be an original.—The *Right Hon. Sir Christopher Packe*, Lord Mayor of London, 1655; he is represented in the scarlet gown, black hood, gold chain, &c. of an Alderman.—Sir *Gervase Clifton*, of Clifton, Bart. He had seven wives, and died in 1668. Sir *James Houlton*, Knight, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. In the church at Prestwould is a monument of alabaster and touch, erected to the memory of Sir William Skipwith, of Cotes, Knight, and Lady Jane, his second wife. He died on the 3d of May, 1610. The above named Sir Christopher Packe, and several others of the family, were interred here, where their titles, ages, virtues, &c. are fully set forth in monumental inscriptions.

RADCLIFFE ON THE WREKE, is a village seated on the river Wreke, near the place where the ancient foss-road crossed it; and within the parish is a large *tumulus*, or mound of earth, measuring about 350 feet long by 120 feet broad, and forty feet in height. It is called *Shipley Hill*, and Dr. Stukeley attributes it to a Celtic origin, whilst Mr. Carte thinks it was raised as a monument



ment to the memory of a Danish king. The present Earl Ferrers, in a letter to Mr. Nichols, opposes both these conjectures, by stating that "the hill is lately proved to be the wonderful work of *nature*, not of art; and has been produced by some uncommon surflux of the river Wreke. It was cut open a few years past, and found to contain *strata of gravel and red marle*, evidently washed together by some extraordinary vortex of the river, or waters making strands round it; which are very perceptible. There are strata of different sorts of earth; first soil; then gravel; marle, red and white; some little blue marle; mixture of gravel, &c. but all evidently appear to have been the work of Providence, not of man. This *hill* is close to the river," &c. Another correspondent of Mr. Nichols's states, that the hill is "about 200 yards from the river;" and a third says, "it does not appear likely that any part of it can be washed away, for it is a furlong at least from the Wreke."

"Such jarring judgments who can reconcile?"

It will be impossible for me, not having seen the spot; but the arguments of the noble Earl do not appear either conclusive or probable. It is very unlikely that any river, like the Wreke, should have formed such a hill as that above described: besides, its contiguity to the Roman road, shape, &c. are circumstances that induce one to view it as artificial, and thence conclude it to be a barrow, or tumulus. Besides, there are other hillocks of a similar character, at different places near this Roman way.

RAKEDALE, anciently called *Ragdale*, *Ragdale on the Wil-*  
*lows*, is a village on the northern border of the county, near Segs-  
hill and the foss-road, and with the manor of Willoughes, be-  
long to Earl Ferrers. These two lordships contain about 1430  
acres of land, the greater part of which is appropriated to the  
grazing system. About 400 acres of this is on the Woulds. On  
this estate is a large mansion, now occupied by a farmer,  
under Earl Ferrers. Over the entrance porch, which was built  
about

about 1629, is a large coat of arms, carved in stone, with fifty quarterings. In this house Robert, first Earl Ferrers, frequently resided, and kept his hawks here, in a room which still remains, and wherein is the stone trough from which they were fed. A modern house, called RAKEDALE-HALL, was built here in 1785, by the present Earl Ferrers. It stands on an eminence, and commands some extensive and diversified views; in which the valley and windings of the Wreke constitute a striking and pleasing feature. In the house are a few cabinet pictures. In the church-yard is a *stone cross*, consisting of a shaft raised on steps, and surmounted with a perforated cross.

SKEFFINGTON, formerly written *Sciftitone*, *Skevington*, &c. is a small village on an eminence, near the turnpike road from Uppingham to Leicester, at the distance of ten miles from the latter. Leland says, that "Shefington lay upward a mile and more from Noseley, wher rose the name of the Skeffingtons: Gentlemen of Leicestershire that be there of most reputation\*." This lordship contains between 1200 and 1500 acres of good grazing land; some part of which is old inclosure; but the greater portion was inclosed under an act passed in 1772. In this, William Farrell, Esq. is described as lord of the manor, patron of the rectory, a proprietor of a considerable part of the open fields, and entitled to right of common. Within the lordship are five woods: Brome's-Wood, supposed to contain about twenty-five acres; Great-Wood, about nineteen acres; England-Wood, ten acres; Hoothill-wood, fifteen acres; and Moneybush-Wood, nine acres. The lands are mostly hilly, the soil rich, and on it are grazed many fine sheep and oxen. In this parish is

SKEFFINGTON HALL, the seat of *Sir William Charles Skeffington*, Bart. The house is large, and on the south front assumes a castellated appearance. The rooms are numerous, spacious and convenient; and many of them are decorated and enriched with pictures, by the first masters, as Sir William Skeffington,  
Bart.

\* Itinerary, Vol. I. p. 23.



Bart. has always been attached to the fine arts, and artists. Among the paintings are the following: *Moses trampling on the Crown of Pharaoh*, by Rembrandt.—*Our Saviour blessing the Children*, by Le Seur.—*Two Landscapes*, on copper, by Breughel.—*David with Goliath's Head*, by Ciro Ferri.—*A Magdalen*, size of life, by Parmegiano.—*A Landscape, with geese, ducks, a spaniel, &c.* by Weenix.—A large picture, representing the *Four Elements*, by Jordaens.—*Venus returning from Hunting*, by Luca Giordano.—*A Landscape*, by Vander Uden, and the figures by Teniers.—*The Adoration of the Shepherds*, by L. Giordano.—*A Landscape*, by Lambert.—*A Hare sitting*, by Denner. PORTRAITS. *The Earl of Holland*, by Dobson.—*Pope Paul the Third*, by Titian.—*Charles the Second*, and *General Monk*, both by Sir Godfrey Kneller.—*Head of an Old Man*, by Vandyck.—*Head of King Charles the First*, by Vandyck.—*Head of Henry the Eighth*, by H. Holbein.—A whole length of *King Charles the First*, by old Stone.—A whole length of *James the First*, and his Queen, by Vansomer.—*King William the Third*, by Sir G. Kneller.—*Queen Anne*, by Vandyck.—A large picture of King Charles the First, his Queen, the Prince of Wales, and James Duke of York, by old Stone, after Vandyck.

According to a record in the family, and the traditions of the place, the floor of the *drawing-room*, measuring 32 feet in length by 23 in breadth, was obtained from one oak tree, which also furnished the whole of the wainscoting to the same room. This tree grew in the neighbouring woods.

The church at Skeffington, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is built of stone, and consists of a nave, two ailes, and a chancel. At the end of the north aisle is a private chapel for the Skeffington family, and in the south wall of the chancel is a curious *Piscina*. In the same place also remains the *rood loft*, nearly in a perfect state. In the eastern window is some *painted glass*, in which are several figures and mutilated inscriptions; and in the private chapel and chancel are several inscriptions to the memories of different branches of the Skeffington family, and some handsome monuments. A particular account of the Skeffington pedigrees, with  
some

some particulars of the principal persons of the family, are detailed in Nichols's History, Vol. III. p. 449, &c.; also in Shaw's History of Staffordshire, Vol. I. p. 365.]

At this place was born THOMAS SKEFFINGTON, who was consecrated Bishop of Bangor in June 1509. He caused a window to be made in this church, in which, says Burton, was "his picture, arms, and a subscription." He also made another window in Merevale church in Warwickshire, wherein was the following inscription in old letters, "Orate pro anima Thome Skeffington, episcopi Bangor;" with his arms, impaling those of the See of Bangor. Burton further states, that this Bishop "built all the cathedral church at Bangor, from the quire downwards to the west end, and the fine tower steeple, which was not fully perfected when he died, but after finished by his executors, though not to that height he had intended." Wood relates, that Bishop Skeffington became, when young, professed in the monastery of Cisterians at Merevale; instructed in theological and other learning in St. Bernard's college, originally built for Cisterians in the north suburb of Oxford (being now St. John's college), to which place he bequeathed 20l. towards its reparation. He was afterwards made Abbot of Waverley, a house of that order in Surrey." He died in 1533, and his heart was interred in the cathedral at Bangor, but his body was conveyed to and buried in the monastery of Beaulieu in Hampshire.

SYSTON, one of the most populous villages in the county, is seated on the turnpike road between Leicester and Melton, at the distance of five miles from the former. The Lordship contains about 1800 acres, the greater part of which is appropriated to grazing. The Earl of Stamford is Lord of the manor. In the year 1777, the open fields of this village, and those of Barkby, were appointed to be inclosed by Act of Parliament; a brook runs on the western side of the village, over which a *Bridge* was erected in 1797. This was begun and completed in nine days by three bricklayers, with their six labourers; and from the rapidity of its execution,



execution, has since been called "The Nine Days Wonder." The quantity of materials used in this bridge, was 25,000 bricks and 150 tons weight of stone. Within this lordship is an eminence called *Mowde-bush-Hill*, on which is a stone inscribed with that name. The late Sir John Danvers formerly held a meeting at Mountsorele, called Mowde-bush-Court, at which time the lawyer or Steward of Sir John went to Mowde-bush hill, and cutting a piece of turf, carried it to the court.

The Parish Register of Syston begins in 1594, and contains, among various other entries, the following; which are curious, as illustrative of the customs, expences, &c. of former times.

"1597, paid to the armour dresser, 3s. 4d.; also for the town sword, 7s.—1599, paid to Peter Pollard, for helping to drive away the *Town Bull*, that was sold, 1d.—Paid for a Bull, 30s.; paid for another Bull, 40s. 6d.—1600, paid to Thomas Pollard, for moving the *Bull-hooke*, 12d.—1601, old Julien Rivett, widow, bequeathed by will, 12d. upon the church; which was bestowed upon painting the church porch and oiling of the same.—1601, spent at Leicester, when we were summoned to appear at the court, for that some of the priests had wrought on St. Bartholomew's day, 12d.—1602, paid to Lord Morden's *Players*, because they *should not play in the church*, 12d.—1602, harvest late; barley not got in before St. Matthew's day; and on that day no peas nor beans were got in, in Syson.—1603, a pound of good hops sold for 2s. 8d.; a strike of malt, 17d. and a strike of wheat, 2s. 4d.—1606, grinding was so scant, either by water or wind, that at the feast of St. Luke, the people came from Hinckley to Syston to grind their corn.—1609, at *Loughborough*, 500 people died of the *plague*."

The church is large, with a nave, ailes, chancel, and a square tower. A passage to the rood-loft still remains, and a *skreen* separates the nave from the chancel. A *Chantry* was founded here by William Grendell, priest, for one priest to sing mass and perform other service, for which he was to receive 3l. 11s. 2d. arising out of lands and tenements. In 1534-5, the procurations  
and

and synodals were 13s. 4d.; the value of the vicarage, 7l. 6s. 8d.; and John Benskin, the chantry priest, had 3l. 9s. a-year. In 1650, Syston was returned as an impropriation, the rectory worth 120l.; the vicar's stipend of money, 20l.; and the incumbent "sufficient."—About a mile south-west of this village is a *Tumulus*, on the eastern side of the Foss road.

SILEBY, a large and populous village, on the eastern bank of the Soar. The extent of the lordship from east to west is one mile and half, and from north to south two miles. It contains about 2139 acres. In 1759, an Act was passed for inclosing about 2200 acres of open fields belonging to this village; and William Pochin, Esq. was then described as impropriator and patron of the vicarage, and entitled to all the great and small tithes, and to the glebe and other land. The manor now belongs to Earl Ferrers, by whom it has been customary to call a court once in three years. "There were formerly two ancient mansion-houses at Sileby, one belonging to the Sherard family, and the other to that of Pochin. Most of the inhabitants are employed in agriculture and frame-work-knitting. Here is a free school, and three other large schools; and in 1800, there were 234 houses and 1111 inhabitants.

The church is built of stone, and ornamented with much sculpture. It consists of a nave, ailes, chancel, porch, and tower. The latter is handsome, and has purlied pinnacles with ornamental buttresses, and the whole of the church is in a fine style of architecture. It was first appropriated to the Abbey of St. Ebrulph in Normandy, which was suppressed by King Henry the Fifth. In the subsequent reign, John Duke of Norfolk obtained a patent from the king to appropriate this church to St. Mary's Priory, in the isle of Axholme, in the county of Lincoln.

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GARTRE HUNDRED is bounded by that of East Goscote to the north, that of Guthlaxton to the west, whilst the counties of Northampton



Northampton and Rutland attach to its southern and eastern borders. This hundred is regularly noticed in Domesday-book by the names of *Gertrev* and *Geretrev*. Nearly in the centre of it, is a place called Gartre-Bush, where, till the beginning of the last century, were held the county courts; since held at Turlington. The great mail road from London to Leicester, Manchester, &c. now crosses this hundred, nearly in a line from south-east to north-west. The principal road was formerly more to the east, and is supposed to have been in the track of the *Via Devann*, a Roman road which enters this hundred, from Colchester, near the village of Bringhurst, and continues in a direct line to Ratæ or Leicester. Near Medbourn are the earthworks of an encampment; and between Cranoe and Glooston is a large Tumulus on the course of this road.

The townships in Gartre Hundred, with their ecclesiastical distinctions, are

- |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Bagrave</i> , a chapelry belonging originally to <i>Keame</i> , and afterwards to <i>Hungarton</i> .                                                          | <i>Bradley</i> , the site of an old priory.                                                                                   |
| <i>Billesdon</i> , a vicarage; including <i>Goadby</i> and <i>Roeleston</i> , in each of which there is a chapel.                                                | <i>Bringhurst</i> , a vicarage; including the chapelries of <i>Drayton</i> and <i>Great Easton</i> ; with <i>Prestgrave</i> . |
| <i>Bishop's Fee</i> (Suburbs of <i>Leicester</i> .)                                                                                                              | <i>Burrow</i> , a rectory.                                                                                                    |
| <i>Blaston</i> , a small township with two chapels; the one, a royal donative, within the parish of <i>Medbourn</i> ; the other, a chapelry to <i>Hallaton</i> . | <i>Burton Overy</i> , a rectory.                                                                                              |
| <i>Bosworth, Husbands</i> , a rectory.                                                                                                                           | <i>Carlton Curlew</i> , a rectory; including the chapelry of <i>Ilston</i> .                                                  |
| <i>Bowden, Great</i> , a perpetual curacy; including the vicarage of <i>St. Mary in Arden</i> , and the chapelry of <i>Market Harborough</i> .                   | <i>Cranhoe</i> , a rectory.                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Evington</i> , a vicarage.                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Foxton</i> , a vicarage.                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Galby</i> , a rectory; including the chapelry of <i>Frisby</i> .                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Glen Magna</i> , a vicarage; including the chapelry of <i>Great Stretton</i> .                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                  | <i>Glewston</i> ,                                                                                                             |

- Glewston*, a rectory.  
*Gumley*, a rectory.  
*Hallaton*, a double rectory, in two medieties; including the chapel of *St. Nicholas* at *Blaston*.  
*Holyoak*, a hamlet of *Dry Stoke*, in the county of Rutland.  
*Horninghold*, a vicarage.  
*Houghton on the Hill*, a rectory.  
*Ingarsby*, a chapelry belonging to *Hungarton*.  
*Keythorpe*, a chapelry belonging to *Tugby*.  
*Kibworth Harcourt*, a rectory; including the hamlets of *Kibworth Beauchamp*, *Smeton*, and *Westerby*.  
*Knossington*, a rectory.  
*Church Langton*, a rectory; including the chapelries of *Thorpe Langton* and *Tur Langton*; and the hamlets of *East* and *West Langton*.  
*Laughton*, a rectory.  
*Lubbenham*, a perpetual curacy.  
*Medbourn*, a rectory; including the chapelry of *Holt*, and the free chapel of *St. Giles* in *Blaston*.  
*Mouseley*, a chapelry belonging to *Knaptost*.  
*Norton*, a vicarage; including the chapelry of *Little Stretton*.  
*Nouseley*, originally a rectory; and afterwards a collegiate church.  
*Ouston*, a perpetual curacy; including the hamlet of *Newbold*.  
*Pickwell*, a rectory; including the hamlet of *Leesthorpe*.  
*Prestgrave*, a depopulated village (See *Bringhamst.*)  
*Sadington*, a rectory.  
*Scraptoft*, a vicarage.  
*Shankton*, a rectory; including the hamlet of *Hardwick*.  
*Slauston*, a vicarage; including the hamlet of *Outhorpe*.  
*Staunton Wyvile*, a rectory.  
*Stokerston*, a rectory.  
*Thedingworth*, a vicarage; including the hamlet of *Hothorp*.  
*Thurnby*, a vicarage; including the chapelries of *Bushby* and *Stoughton*.  
*Welham*, a vicarage.  
*Wistow*, a vicarage; including the chapelries of *Fleckney*, *Kilby*, and *Newton Harcourt*.



## HARBOROUGH,

Or *Market Harborough*, is the chief town in this hundred, and is situated near the southern border of the county, where it joins Northamptonshire on the northern bank of the river Wel-land. It is a respectable well built-town, consisting of one principal street, two short streets, and four lanes. Within the last twenty years, Harborough has been very materially improved, and several new houses have been erected in the vicinage within that period. Many of these buildings are, however, included in the parishes of Great and Little Bowden, to the former of which the town is attached.

“The latitude of Harborough, deduced from many very accurate observations of the altitude of the sun’s centre, made in the year 1737 by my late worthy father, Mr. Samuel Rouse, a draper in this town, is  $52^{\circ} 29'$  north; its longitude is  $55''$  or  $3' 40''$  of time, west of Greenwich. The accuracy of these observations have been confirmed by the satisfactory authority of the late Rev. William Ludlam, who took much pains nicely to ascertain the latitude of St. Martin’s church in Leicester. The latitudes and longitudes of places, when settled with accuracy, are valuable, as well to the practical astronomer as to the geographer; and those of Leicester and Market Harborough may be relied on\*.”

In the Testa de Nevill, this place is called both *Herberhurr Buggedon*, and *Haverberg*, and by the latter name it is designated in most other ancient writings wherein it is mentioned. *Haver*, Johnson informs us, is a common word in the northern counties for *oats*. This may have given occasion to the tradition, that it owes its rise to the good oats which travellers used to find at an inn here (the King’s Head), supposed to be at that time the only house in the place. To this tradition Moreton has given some authority by observing, that “Market Harborough and some other

\* Mr. Rowland Rouse, in a letter to the Royal Society, May 11, 1775.

other road towns that are now considerable, took their rise from only a single inn." Another account is, that this town was built by an earl of Chester, who resided in Leicester castle, for the convenience of a lodging-place for himself and his retinue, in his passage to and from London. But there is reason to believe that neither of these traditions have any foundation in truth; for it is certain, that Harborough has a strong claim to Roman antiquity. On the east side of the town are plain traces of an ancient *Encampment*, which, from its form, may be considered of Roman origin. At a short distance, both east and west, Roman urns and other pottery have been discovered; and even in the street, an ancient drain was lately found, a few feet below the surface, which appeared to be of Roman masonry. The most conspicuous remains of the encampment are in an old inclosure called *The King's Head Close*. The house, formerly the King's Head Inn, but now converted into private houses, stands opposite the south-east corner of Lord Harborough's new building. It is said to have been the ancient manor-house; and from its vicinity to this camp, probably was so: for wherever these camps are discovered, the manor-house is generally built in or very near them. This encampment was of a squarish form, and included about six acres of ground; but the banks and foss are nearly levelled with the adjacent lands. Near this spot was discovered, in the year 1779, two *sepulchral urns*, one of a large size, and the other smaller. These were formed of clay, very slightly baked. Two other smaller urns were afterwards found; and at subsequent times various fragments of other urns, with burnt bones, pieces of a patera, &c. have been discovered; all which prove, that this spot was once a considerable cemetery.

It is rather a curious circumstance, that Harborough has no land or fields belonging to it; whence originated the local proverb, that "A goose will eat all the grass that grows in Harborough field." In ecclesiastical affairs, this town is dependant on the parish of Bowden Magna; and its chief religious structure is only a chapel of ease. This building, however, is large, hand-



some, and nearly uniform in its style of architecture. It may be fairly ranked with the finest religious edifices in the county; and consists of a nave, two ailes, a chancel, with two tiers of windows, two porches, and a tower, with a spire, all measuring 140 feet in length. The latter is octangular, and ornamented with crockets at each angle, extending all the way up. Mr. R. Rouse conjectures, that this chapel, &c. was built by John of Gaunt, as the tradition of the inhabitants, and the various arms found in the building, seem to indicate; but Mr. Nichols supposes that it was erected by Geffrey le Scrope, "whose arms were repeated on the steeple. This chapel is mentioned in an ecclesiastical record of 1344," where it is noticed as parcel of the Rectory of Bowden Magna.

In this town are three meeting houses; for Presbyterians, Quakers, and Methodists. Here is a weekly market held on Tuesday, and one chartered fair annually; another fair is also established by custom. In the principal street is a large town-hall, and near the church is a charity School, founded by Mr. Smith. In the time of Queen Elizabeth, a large manufactory of shoes for foreign trade was established here; and at present the making of tammies, shalloons, plain and figured lastings, &c. afford employment and succour to many poor families of the town and neighbourhood. The business in these articles is very considerable; and Mr. Nichols observes, that in some years "it is computed that 30,000*l.* has been returned in the article of tammies only." Harborough contains 330 houses, and 1716 inhabitants.

Harborough appears to have been the head quarters of the King's Army, previous to the memorable *battle of Naseby*, in Northamptonshire, which proved so fatal to the royal cause in June, 1645. The king was at Lubbenham, and hearing that the parliament's army was beating up in the rear of the royal camp, hastened to Harborough, and called a council of war. It was then agreed to hazard an engagement the next morning; and the royal army formed, it is supposed, upon the hill south of the town, between Oxendon and Farndon. From this advan-

tageous

tageous position they were drawn by the rashness of Prince Rupert, and hurried on to battle, in which, in a few hours, the king's party was completely routed. Had there been the same caution and prudence on the side of the Royalists as with the Parliamentarians, the issue would most likely have been different; for though in point of numbers the armies were nearly equal, yet the royalists had considerable advantages, if they had prudently and skilfully employed them. Instead of which, they made a quick march of four miles, and attacked the enemy in a lofty, commanding, and advantageous situation, before their own cannon arrived. The consequence was inevitable, and the infatuated and ill conducted royal army were nearly all slain and taken prisoners. Many of them were conveyed back to Harborough, and confined all night in the chapel. The following puritanical letter from O. Cromwell to the Speaker, dated from this town, details some events of this memorable engagement.

“ For the Hon. William Lenthall, Speaker of the Commons’  
House of Parliament.

“ SIR,

“ *Haverbrowe*, June 14, 1645.

“ Being commanded by you to this service, I think myself bound to acquaint you with the good hand of God towards you and us. We marched yesterday after the king, who went before us from Daventry to Haverbrowe, and quartered about six miles from him. This day we marched towards him. He drew out to meet us. Both armies engaged. We, after three hours fight very doubtful, at last routed his army; killed and took about 5000; very many officers, but of what quality we yet know not. We took also about 200 carriages, all he had, and all his guns, being twelve in number; whereof two were demi-culverins, and (I think) the rest sakers. We pursued the enemy from three miles short of Haverbrowe to nine beyond, even to the sight of Leicester, whither the king fled. Sir, this is none other but the hand of God; and to him alone belongs the glory, wherein none



are to share with him. The General served you with all faithfulness and honour; and the best commendation I can give of him is, that I dare say he attributes all to God, and would rather perish than assume to himself, which is an honest and a thriving way: yet as much for bravery must be given him in this action as to a man. Honest men served you faithfully in this action. Sir, they are trusty. I beseech you, in the name of God, not to discourage them. I wish this action may beget thankfulness and humility in all that are concerned in it. He that ventures his life for the liberty of his country, I wish he trust God for the liberty of his conscience, and you for the liberty he fights for. In this he rests, who is your humble servant,

“O. CROMWELL.”

The movements of the king, immediately before this battle, are thus recorded by an attendant:

“June 4, 1645, the king, from Leicester, lay at Wistow one night at Sir Richard Halford’s.

“5th, Removed to Lubbenham near Harborough, and staid two nights at Mr. Collins’s.

“7th, Went to Daventree, and staid six nights at the Wheat-sheaf; whence Oxford was relieved from the siege and victualled.

“13th, Re-marched to Lubbenham, to Mr. Collins.

“14th, An alarm affrighted the king and army at two in the morning to Harborough, the general’s quarters; thence, about seven, marched towards Naseby, where the parliament’s army quartered; rashly fought with them; were utterly defeated through the cowardice of the horse, who fled to the walls of Leicester, sixteen miles, and never faced nor rallied till there.”

This defeat was attended with two peculiarly distressing circumstances. The King’s cabinet of letters, among which were the private ones that passed between him and his Queen, were basely published by the insulting foe. And the conquerors, fiercely pursuing the routed royal army, killed, besides many men, ladies, whose coaches were overturned in their hasty flight,

particularly in the south part of Farndon-field, within the gate-place in the road between Naseby and Farndon. The parliament horse galloping along, as Mr. Morton (the author of the Natural History of Northamptonshire) was informed by an eye-witness, cut and slashed the women, with this sarcasm at every stroke, "*Remember Cornwall, you whores!*" Sir Ralph Hopton, *as they said*, having used their women in Cornwall in the like manner. In this pursuit, the enemy killed above one hundred women, whereof some were the wives of officers of quality.

At BRADLEY, in the parish of Medbourn, a small lordship on the south-eastern edge of the county, was a *Priory* of canons regular of the order of St. Austin, founded by Robert Bundy, or Burnely, in the reign of King John. The lords Scrope of Bolton, styled by Dugdale the second founders, were considerable benefactors to, and afterwards patrons of, this small religious house. On the site of the priory is a single house, and near it is a deep Well walled round beneath the surface. It is called *Our Lady's Well*.

BURROW, in some old writings called *Burg*, *Erdeburg*, *Erdburrow*, &c. is a village situated on an eminence near the verge of the county, where it joins Huntingdonshire. This place is noted by some antiquaries for its *castrametations*, on which both Leland and Stukeley have descanted. The former says, "the place that is now cawllid Borow-Hilles, is duple ditched, and conteinith within the diche to my estimation a iiii score acres. The soile of it bearith very good corne. First I tooke hit for a campe of menne of warre; but after I plaine perceived that hit had beene waullid about with stone, and to be sure, pullid out some stones at the entering of hit, where hath bene a great gate, and ther found lyme betwixt the stones. But whither ther hath been any mo gates there than one, I am not sure, but I coniect ye. Very often hath be founde ther *Numisma Romana* of gold, sylver, and brasse, and fragmentes of al foundations in plowying.



This stondith in the very hy way betwixt Melton and London. To the Borow-hilles every yere on Monday after White-Sunday, cum people of the contery ther about, and shote, ronne, wrastel, dawnce, and use like other feates of exercyse." (These rural sports continued in vogue till within a few years.) "Borow village is within lesse than half a mile of hit; and there dwellith one Mr. Borow, the greatest owner there.

"Borow-hilles be aboute a vii miles from Leyrcestre. From Borow-hilles to launde a v mile. The soile *directo itinere*, betwixt Southripe and laund, is baren of wood, but plentiful of corne and pasture, especially abowt launde quarters. But the soile abowte launde is wooddy; and the forest of Ly, of sum caullid Lyfeld, joynithe to launde by Este. And the soile of Owsen Abbey is also very wooddy\*."

These notices of our old tourist are curious and interesting; as displaying the state of the place when he visited it, and also as serving to characterize the customs of the people, and natural features of the county, almost three hundred years ago. Camden conjectures that the Roman station, called by Antoninus, *Vernometum*, was at Burrow: but, by the authority of later antiquaries, and particularly on the judgment of the Rev. T. Leman, I have been induced to fix this station on the *northern* border of the county, near Willoughby. Dr. Stukeley describes the hill at Burrow "as a great Roman camp, on the north west tip of a ridge of hills, and higher than any other part of it, of a most delightful and extensive prospect, reaching as far as Lincoln one way. The fortification takes in the whole summit of the hill; the high rampire is partly composed of vast loose stones, piled up and covered with turf. It is of an irregular figure, humouring the form of the ground nearly a square, and conformed to the quarters of the heavens, its length lies east and west; the narrowest end eastward. It is about 800 feet long; and for the most part there is a ditch besides the rampire. To render the ascent still more difficult to assailants, the entrance is south-west at a corner from  
a narrow

\* Leland's Itinerary, Vol. V. p. 93, 94.

a narrow ridge. Here two rampires advance inwards, like the sides of a gate for greater strength. Within is a rising hill about the middle; and they say that vaults have been found thereabouts. Antiquaries talk of a Temple, which may have been there, and in the time of the Britons. Several springs rise from under the hill on all sides; and I observed the rock thereof is composed of sea-shells. They frequently carry away the stones that form the rampires, to mend the roads with. There is another Roman castle, southward near Tilton, but not so big as Borough-hill\*."

Though Leland and Dr. Stukeley speak so decisively of walls here, the Rev. George Ashby doubts the existence of any masonry having been ever used in this fortification; and Mr. John Tailby, in a letter to Mr. Nichols, positively contradicts it by observing, that "Burrow Hill is an encampment, in a great measure formed by *nature*, and shaped by art and labour. The hill consists of a loose open-jointed rock of soft reddish stone, covered with a shallow soil. In this rock some fossil shells appear, some indented, some plain, but most of the cockle kind: one I found, when broken, shewed the ligaments, or membranes, which join the fish to the shell; this was a small plain one. The joints of the rock, at first sight, appear as if formed by art as a wall is, for between the joints is a white substance, which adheres to the stone, and much resembles lime, or lime-mortar; but is in reality *no such thing*. In some places the joints are so open, that the earth, which is not more than six or eight inches deep above the rock, (in some places the stone appears above the soil) is worked into the chinks, so as to appear as a cement of dirt-mortar."

In the church at Burrow is a small piscina, and a curious circular *font*, ornamented with various tracery, &c. Here is an old monument

\* Itinerarium Curiosum, Edit. 1724, p. 102. The castle or *encampment* here referred to is probably that of *Sauvey*, in the lordship of Withcote, about four miles S. S. E. of Burrow Hill, where the embankment is single, composed chiefly of a rock of the same nature as Burrow Hill, and interspersed with fossils of the same kind.



monument to a knight of the family of Stockden, with his effigy in armour.

At CARLETON, or *Carleton Curlieu*, so called, to distinguish it from East Carleton in Northamptonshire, is an old house, named CARLETON CURLIEU HALL, the seat of *Thomas Palmer*, Esq. who inherits it from his father, the late Sir John Palmer, Bart. This estate and manor was purchased by Thomas Palmer, Esq. in 1597, when it was found, by an inquisition, that Henry Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon, died seised of the office of bailship (*balliot*) of Carleton Curley, held of the queen in capite, by the service of an hundredth part of a knight's fee; and, by a subsequent inquisition, September 5, 1607, it was found that George Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon, died seised of the same bailship; and that it was within the honour of Leicester, and parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster. The lordship now contains about 1600 acres of old inclosure, the greater part of which is disposed in large pasture grounds. The manor house is a curious old building, of the style commonly called Queen Elizabeth's Gothic. In the front are three projections, with three tiers, or stories, of windows, and terminated at top with escalated pediments, like the street front of University College, in Oxford. Among some family portraits, there is one of Sir *Geoffrey Palmer*, Bart. who was born in 1598, and who was the first Attorney General after the restoration. He acquired particular eminence in the law, and in early life was one of the select friends of Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon. In 1678 he published a volume, entitled "*Les Reports, de Sir Jeffrey Palmer, Chevalier and Baronett*," with his portrait, from a painting by Sir P. Lely, now in the possession of Mr. Cambridge.

In the church at Carleton Curlieu is an alabaster tomb, with the effigies of a man in armour, and his lady; and two inscriptions, in Latin, to the memory of Sir *John Bale*, who died in 1621, and Frances his wife, who died in 1629, aged 80.

STRETTON MAGNA, sometimes called *Bishop's Stretton*, (from Robert Eyrick, Bishop of Chester, who was born here) is a hamlet, on the Roman road, whence it derived its name of Stretton, or Street-ton. The family of Eyrick was settled here at an early period, and held two virgates of land (about fifty acres) from the Abbey of Leicester, on the payment of a pound of pepper to the king, as an annual quit rent. A Robert Eyrick, or, as commonly called, Robert de Stretton, LL. D. founded and endowed a chantry here.

In this lordship, which is almost surrounded with groves of trees, is a good manor house, built by one of the family of the Hewetts, who resided here 'till the death of the late *William Hewett*, Esq. in 1766. This gentleman was an intimate friend of the great Marquis of Granby, with whom he travelled to Italy. On his return, and settlement at this place, he set a large quantity of acorns, and is said to have disposed some of them in the form of the colonnade before St. Peter's at Rome. At *Croxton*, a hunting seat belonging to the Duke of Rutland, is a small portrait of him; and his character is said to be well drawn in one of Smollet's novels. The hall here now belongs to Sir George Robinson, Bart. in right of his lady, one of the heiresses to the Hewetts.

GUMLEY, a village situated on an eminence, about twelve miles from Leicester, is dignified with the seat of Joseph Cradock, Esq. M. A. and F. R. S. This is a large modern building, called *Gumley Hall*, and was begun in 1764; since which time the fine plantations, pleasure grounds, &c. have been gradually and progressively improving. In the library, which contains an excellent collection of books, (for Mr. Cradock is a literary character) are several first editions of the classics: Euripides, with Milton's MS notes, mentioned by Dr. Johnson, and more fully by Mr. Jodrell, in his "*Illustrations of Euripides*."—A Manilius, with Dr. Bentley's MS notes; and the "*Thesaurus*" of Grævius and Gronovius, of 25 large volumes, bound in vellum, large paper, &c. &c.

Gumley, from time immemorial, has been famous for its *for-*  
*earths*;



*earths*; and here is a noted *mineral spring*, which has been mentioned in some very old writings. From the experiments of Mr. W. Morris, it appears to resemble, in some degree, the Tunbridge-Wells water. This gentleman observes, that "its lightness and chalybeate properties, at the spring, seem to be equal, if not superior, to any of our mineral waters in Great Britain."

#### HALLATON,

A small market town, is situated in a valley at the distance of about six miles north-east of Market Harborough. "It has been fancifully called a *Half-Town*," observes Mr. Nichols, "but rather seems to denote a *Hallowed*, or *Holy-Town*." Leland calls it "a pretty townlet."—"This lordship, from the earliest times, was divided into two capital manors, one called *Peverels*, or Engaine's, the other Auselin's, or Bardolf's; both held of the fee of Peverel; and attached to this was a subordinate manor, called Hackluit's, or the Duchy Manor\*."

In an act of parliament, passed in 1770, for dividing and inclosing the common fields of Hallaton, being by estimation about 3000 acres, Benjamin Bewicke and Thomas Vowe, Esqrs. are described as severally lords of manors within the parish. The town now contains 149 houses, and 548 persons. A market, which had been long discontinued, was revived here in 1767, and the town has the privilege of two annual fairs. A school was established here in 1707, by the benefaction of a lady.

Hallaton is distinguished by a singular and ridiculous ancient *annual custom*. A piece of land was bequeathed to the use and advantage of the rector, who was then to provide "two hare pies, a quantity of ale, and two dozen of penny loaves, to be *scrambled for* on Easter Monday annually." The land, before the inclosures took place, was called *Hare crop-leys*; and, at the time

\* Nichols's Hist. of Leicestershire, Vol. II. p. 593.

time of dividing the fields, in 1770, a piece was allotted to the rector in lieu of the said Leys. The custom is still continued; but, instead of hare, the rector provides two large pies, made of veal and bacon. These are divided into parts, and put into a sack; and about two gallons of ale, in two wooden bottles, without handles or strings, are also put into a sack: the penny loaves are cut into quarters, and placed in a basket. Thus prepared, the men, women, and children, form a procession from the rector's, and march to a place, called *Hare Pie Bank*, about a quarter of a mile south of the town. In the course of this journey the pieces of bread are occasionally thrown for scrambling; but the pies and ale are carried to the grand rustic theatre of contention and confusion. This is of old formation, and, though not upon so great a scale, or destined for such bloody feats, as the Roman amphitheatres, yet consists of a bank, with a small trench round it, and a circular hole in the centre. Into this the pies and ale are promiscuously thrown, and every frolicksome, foolish, and frantic rustic rushes forward to seize a bit, or bear away a bottle. Confusion ensues, and, what began in peurile sport, occasionally terminates in that common, but savage custom, a boxing-match. How much more noble, and praise-worthy, would it be to encourage and reward some laudable competition, or instructive emulation; and, instead of sowing the seeds of discord and passionate contention, endeavour to cultivate the benign blessings of peace, brotherly love, and social harmony.

About one mile west of the town is an *encampment*, called *Hallaton Castle Hill*. This consists of a circular entrenchment, with a lofty conical keep; branching out from which, towards the west, is a squarish plot of ground, encompassed with banks and ditches. To the north-east is a small square entrenchment, connected with the outer foss. The keep measures about 118 feet in height, by 630 feet in circumference, and the whole occupies about two acres of land. About a quarter of a mile south west of this is the appearance of the remains of another *encampment*, which assumes a squarish shape, and includes one acre and three roods of ground.

The



The church at Hallaton is a large handsome structure, consisting of a nave, aisles, chancel, and tower with a spire. The aisles are as high as the nave, and have large windows with mullions, and elaborate tracery. At the north-east angle is a sort of tower-buttress, ornamented with niches, canopies, and pinnacles. Over these are the arms of Bardulph and Engaine, cut on stone shields, and the whole is surmounted with an handsome crocketed pinnacle. Round the exterior summit of this aisle is a perforated balustrade. In the north porch is an *ancient piece of sculpture*, which originally formed the impost of a doorway, and represents the patron Saint, Michael, slaying a dragon. In the chancel are three *stone seats*, gradually rising one above another; and in the south aisle are three others, of different shaped arches and ornaments. Here is also an ancient *font*, of square form, with columns at the angles, having grotesque heads in the place of capitals.

IN DRYSTOCK CHURCH (in Rutland), on the eastern border of Gartre hundred, is a fine *alabaster monument*, with the effigies of a man and woman. The former is represented in plated armour, with sword and dagger, ruffles, beard, and curled hair: at his feet is the figure of a lion. Round the edge, in raised letters, is the following inscription—

“Here lieth the bodies of Henelme Digby, Esquier, which Henelme deceased the 21 of April, 1590: and of Anne his Wife, which Anne deceased”——

On the north side of the tomb are statues of “a swaddled babe, a woman, a man, in a furred cloak, waistcoat, and trunk hose; another in armour, with a falling cape, double collar, gloves in his left hand, his right on a shield; a fleur de lis, and crescent of difference; four females in ruffs, and heads dressed like the larger figure, and another swaddled babe; two women at the head, in the same dress as the others, and between them *Digby*, in pale, azure, on a chevron, between three roses, slit azure and vert, three fleurs de lis, *Cope*, in a garter inscribed

NVL

NVL QVE VNG, *None but one*.\*" This Kenelm Digby was Grandson of Sir Everard Digby, of Tilton, and Sheriff of Rutland, 1541, 1549, 1554, 1561, 1567, 1585; and represented that county in parliament from the first of Edward the Sixth, to the fourteenth of Elizabeth inclusive; and great grandfather of the famous Sir Kenelm Digby †. In this church are other monuments and memorials to different persons of the Digby family.

At HORNINGHOLD, a village a little north-east of Hallaton, the church is entitled to the notice of the architectural antiquity. Its southern *door-way* presents a curious specimen of the real Saxon style. From two rudely sculptured capitals spring a semi-circular arch, the face of which is ornamented with a sort of diamond shaped work, and this is encircled with a billet moulding, or band. In the church is an old octangular *font*, supported by four round pillars, with a large one in the centre. Horninghold church, with the lordship, was held by *Robert de Todenci*, immediately from the Conqueror: and this Norman lord gave the lordship, &c. to the priory of Belvoir, whence it was transferred to the Abbey of St. Alban's.

KIBWORTH is situated on the great turnpike road from London to Leicester, at the distance of nine miles from the latter. This parish consists of the three hamlets of *Kibworth-Beauchamp*, *Kibworth-Harcourt*, and *Smeeton-Westerby*, now considered as one hamlet though actually two distinct villages. The whole parish extends about four miles in length, and comprehends nearly 4000 acres of land. In Kibworth-Beauchamp, Walter de Beauchamp obtained leave to hold a weekly market, from King Henry the Third, in 1221; but this has long been discontinued.

Near the hamlet of Kibworth-Harcourt is an *encampment*, consisting of a large mount, encompassed with a single ditch, the circum-

\* Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. p. 608.

† See Beauties of England, &c. Vol. I. p. 328, 329. Vol. IV. p. 496.



circumference of which, at the bottom, is 122 yards. The height of the slope of the mount is 18 yards, and its diameter at top is 16 yards. About 200 yards from the Meeting-house is a large *Barrow*, raised on elevated ground. At Kibworth is a free *Grammar School*, founded and supported on a liberal plan; but the time of the foundation, and the name of the benefactor, are not satisfactorily defined; whence some litigations have arisen respecting this establishment: but these being settled by a decree from the Court of Chancery, Francis Edwards, Esq. who possessed considerable property in the village, had a new school-house erected in 1725.

The church, seated on an eminence, is spacious, and consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, two porches, and steeple. The latter is lofty and taper, and measures fifty-three yards in height. On the south side of the chancel are three handsome *stone seats*, and a small *piscina*. The pulpit is curiously carved, as is the covering of the font.

LANGTON, a considerable district in the southern part of the county, includes about 3000 acres of land, and comprehends the five chapelries and hamlets, of *Church-Langton*, *East-Langton*, *West-Langton*, *Thorpe-Langton*, and *Tur-Langton*. The three former, though distinct manors, may be considered as one district; the two latter have separate chapels, but each has an appropriated aisle in the mother church. CHURCH LANGTON is pleasantly situated on an eminence, at the distance of four miles from Harborough, and is particularly marked in the annals of benevolence, from the charitable character, &c. of the late Rev. *William Hanbury*, who was the rector of this living, and resided here for many years. "Amidst the numerous plans," observes Mr. Nichols, "proposals, and schemes, offered to the public, for relieving distress, encouraging merit, promoting virtue, exciting industry, and propagating religion, none has appeared in the present age more extensive, benevolent, and disinterested, than the charities projected, and in some degree established, by the late  
Rev.

Rev. Mr. Hanbury; which justly entitled him to the thanks, esteem, and patronage, of his contemporaries, and have ensured him the veneration of posterity. These charities, as the public-spirited founder informs us, owed their origin to his natural genius and inclination for planting and gardening; and the intentions of this benevolent Divine were so perfectly pure, that one would have imagined that the breath of calumny itself could not have vented the slightest censure on the projector."

The great object and speculation of Mr. Hanbury was to raise and cultivate very extensive plantations: the profits arising from which he intended to appropriate to the foundation of several noble and important charities. When only twenty-six years of age, he informs us, he commenced his plan, in first cultivating an acquaintance with gardeners, seedsmen, &c. and thereby acquiring the best practical knowledge of the nature, properties, value, &c. of seeds and plants. This not satisfying his ardent mind, he established a correspondence abroad, and obtained from North-America, and other distant countries, a great variety of seeds, &c. "All the time," he observes, "I was employed in settling this correspondence, I was very busy in preparing the ground for the reception of the seeds of all sorts; together with a spot for the planting of such trees as were to be headed down, for what gardeners call stools, in order for their throwing out fresh shoots for layering. Two years closely employed me in the different parts of such necessary preparations; and, by the spring of 1753, the seminary was completed, by containing a very large quantity of almost every sort of seed that could be procured; besides, a large spot of ground was planted over with such trees and shrubs as are propagated in the viminalous manner." Soon afterwards Mr. Hanbury found his plants increased to such an extent, that he wanted additional land to transplant them in. He therefore applied for a small Close, which was part of the glebe, but in which the parish had a right of common after the hay was cleared off. All the parishioners but two, *Mrs. Pickering* and *Mrs. Byrd*, agreed to allow the worthy clergyman this piece of land, and the



two ladies partly consented. Mr. H. fancying himself secure, prepared the ground, and planted it in the spring with about 20,000 young trees, of different sorts: but, either envy, jealousy, or some worse passion, operated on the two ladies and some of their dependents, and impelled them to claim their right of common; and, "the moment the harvest was in, their tenants' cattle were turned amongst the young trees, and in a little time destroyed them all. Neither was this all. I was served, for a trespass, with twenty-seven different copies of writs in one day\*. Not dismayed at this," continues the enthusiastic projector, "I rallied again, and, in a year or two, my nursery at Tur-Langton was planted all over. Firm and unshaken, I closely pursued the main point in view; and, by the year 1757, my large plantations at Gumley† were all made."

By such spirited exertions, Mr. Hanbury had raised, by the year 1758, plantations, the value of which were estimated at 10,000*l*. In this year he published proposals for the sale of a large quantity of these trees, &c. towards the foundation of his charities. He soon afterwards went to Oxford, and there printed his "*Essay on Planting*," which was dedicated to the University, and in which he gave additional publicity to his favourite plans.

To

\* In Mr. Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. p. 686, is the following note on this passage. "In two or three years after he had a process entered against him in the spiritual court, by Thomas Buszard, Churchwarden; but Buszard signed his recantation March 31, 1766, in which he acknowledged to have been instigated to act as he did, not by the devil, but by two ladies of great fortune in the parish—Mrs. Pickering and Mrs. Byrd." The conduct of these females towards the benevolent rector, appears either excessively illiberal and cruel, or incomprehensible. In our intercourse with society, we occasionally (and with pleasure be it spoken, it is only occasionally) meet with persons who persist in annoying their neighbours, and thereby popularly debase themselves, by committing and repeating despicable acts, in defiance of justice, equity, reason, and public shame.

† "These remain a glorious monument of the practicability of the plan; and are now the ornament of Mr. Cradock's residence." Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. p. 686.

To promote these, he appointed an Oratorio to be performed at Church Langton, Sept. 26 and 27, 1759, and these were again repeated in the two following years; but the profits arising therefrom were very trifling. In the winter of 1761, the sale of plants, &c. from the nurseries, amounted to upwards of 1000*l*. In the year 1763, Mr. Hanbury had his portrait painted in full length, by Mr. Penny, who was the first professor of painting to the Royal Academy. This artist also attempted to paint a likeness of Mrs. Hanbury, but not succeeding, apologized for his incapacity by a compliment to the lady, in saying, "She is out of the art." This appears to have been peculiarly grateful to the husband; for he observes, "Several other painters have since attempted a likeness, but in vain; so that if ever we have a picture of Mrs. Hanbury, it must be when age has brought her under the power of pencil and paint\*. My age at this time is 38, and Mrs. Hanbury's 28." Our benevolent clergyman was intimate with the Rev. *Charles Churchill* and *Robert Lloyd*, whose deaths he particularly deplores, in the year 1763. In conjunction with the latter, Mr. Hanbury had agreed to present to the public an English edition of Virgil. The translation, "in long measure," to be by Lloyd,

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and

\* This vulgar notion is too prevalent with puerile miniature drawers, and impotent portrait painters; whose universal system is flattery and falsehood. These *endeavour* to make *their* representations of ordinary faces pretty, and, failing to imitate "Nature's fairest forms," contrive generally to shelter their own imbecilities, and also deceive their indiscriminating employers, by saying, to each pretty woman, that its beyond the power of paint, or colour, to do justice to your inimitable countenance. Would Vandyck ever have disgraced his art, and his own pencil, by such pityful subterfuge? or would that great artist, Sir Joshua Reynolds, have deigned to excuse himself from executing the portrait of a beautiful female, by saying *his* pencil was incompetent? But the man who professes to be an artist, and neglects the necessary studies to be a meritorious one, must resort to a baser art, for the purpose of obtaining a livelihood. Such are the transcendant powers of the painter's pencil, that, in a skilful hand, it can be made to imitate almost any visual object not in motion; as the mirror, or transparent water, reflects and combines all objects immediately opposed to their responsive surfaces.



and copious notes, containing "the modern names of the different shrubs and plants, together with their order and class, in the Linnean system," by Mr. Hanbury. This gentleman was not alone devoted to planting and botany; as music was also a favourite study with him; and on these partialities he was complimented in the following lines:

"So sweet thy *strain*, so thick thy *shade*,  
The pleas'd spectator sees—  
The miracle once more display'd,  
Of Orpheus and his trees."

The benevolent plans of this gentleman had excited so much publicity, and his private character was so much respected by some literary friends, that several poems and essays were published in his vindication and praise. Among these was a poem by Lloyd, entitled "*Charity*;" and another by Wm. Woty, entitled "*Church Langton*;" wherein the author thus describes the characteristics of the country—

"On yonder broad circumference of ground,  
Where chilling clay diffus'd its damp around,  
Within whose bounds no living charm was seen,  
No tree to shelter, and no bush to screen,  
The rich plantation now salutes our eyes,  
And waves its foliage of enchanting dyes."

The poet then proceeds to describe, in flowing numbers, the different objects of utility, ornament, &c. that were to arise from the completion of Mr. Hanbury's plans: but these, like the poet's visions, have never been fully accomplished. Different trustees, at different periods, have been appointed to execute the trust deeds. The whole of these, with the schemes of the author, were published in an octavo volume, entitled "*The History of the Rise and Progress of the Charitable Foundations at Church-Langton*, together with the different Deeds of Trust of that Establishment, by the Rev. Mr. Hanbury," 1767.

"With

"With a firmness of mind equal to the benevolence of his heart," says our modern Camden, "Mr. Hanbury seemed, in the course of about twenty years, to have brought to the utmost degree of maturity and stability human affairs are capable of, this singular undertaking of raising, from a plantation of all the various trees, plants, &c. the world produces, a yearly fund of near 10,000*l.*; sufficient to relieve the distressed, instruct the ignorant, assist the curious, adorn the parish, and benefit this and the neighbouring county of Rutland, as long as integrity and public spirit subsist in Britain, or dare to defy singularity and censure. This generous design claims a place here on a double account. We antiquaries have great obligations to this liberal founder, who has appropriated part of this fund to the compiling and publishing a history of every county of England, by a professor appointed on purpose\*."

Mr. Hanbury, persevering in his favorite pursuits, published in 1773, a large work in two volumes folio, entitled, "A complete body of Planting and Gardening; containing the natural history, culture, and management of deciduous and ever-green forest trees, with practical directions for raising and improving woods, nurseries, seminaries, and plantations, &c. &c." In the preface to this work, our author is rather harsh and severe in his strictures on former horticultural writers; thinking, like many other system-mongers, that to establish a new theory or practice, it is necessary to depreciate or invalidate all that had been previously known. He is not very elegant or clear in his style; nor on the whole was this work likely to exalt his fame, or benefit his charities†. Mr. Hanbury died, Feb. 28, 1778, in the 53d year of his age, and his remains were deposited in a mausoleum at Church Langton, near the rectorial house.

It may, perhaps, with confidence be said, that no charitable scheme, or public plan of an individual, ever excited so much

F f 3

notoriety

\* "Anecdotes of British Topography," Vol. I. p. 520.

† See a fair character of this work in Monthly Review, Vol. L. p. 1.



notoriety as that of the rector of Church Langton; thousands of persons were captivated with the prospect, and most of the neighbouring gentry cheerfully joined in his trusts, and patronized his efforts. Yet he had his faults, and was attacked by enemies; for in the fervour of his zeal, he occasionally gave way to the impulses of passion and indignation; and some persons, either actuated by envy, jealousy, or false judgment, publicly opposed and reprobated his schemes. Whatever may have been the motives of the man, is not very material; but that his ultimate object was of a very important and praiseworthy nature is evident, and it will ever be a subject of regret, that so little was done from such very laudable schemes.

The church of West Langton, "a large and venerable building," consists of a nave, ailes, chancel, south porch, and lofty square tower. Between the nave and each aile, are four semi-circular arches, springing from fluted columns; and at the west end of the former is a substantial gallery and organ, raised from the profits of Mr. Hanbury's plantations. In the angle between the north aile and chancel is a *rood loft*, the stone steps leading up to which remain in a perfect state. Near this is a piscina, and in the chancel is another in a handsome niche, connected with which are three *stone seats* of the same style. The nave of the church is appropriated to East, West, and Church Langton's; the south aile to Thorpe Langton, and the north aile to Tur-Langton. The advowson of the church, with all the lands, tithes, and appurtenances thereto belonging, was given to the Abbot and Convent of St. Mary de Pratis at Leicester, by William de Novo Mercato; and confirmed by Robert Bossu Earl of Leicester, by Hugh Bishop of Lincoln, and by Christiana filia Gore, the granddaughter of the original donor. In the Matriculus of 1220, it is stated that the church was then under the patronage of the Abbot of Leicester; that the rector was G. nephew to the legate, by whom he had been instituted; that it had two chapels, Thorpe and Thyrlangton, having each a resident chaplain appointed by the mother-church; and that the abbot had an ancient pension  
from

from this church of half a mark. There was another chapel at (either East or West) Langton, where service was performed three times in a week from the mother-church. The value of this living in 1615 is fully explained in a letter from "Thomas Herrick" to Sir William Herrick, wherein the writer says, "the living is a parsonage; that the incumbent, Dr. Osborne, would sell the inheritance, "it being an advowson to him and his heirs for ever," he demands 2000l. for it, or he would be tenant to the incumbent, and "pay 500l. a-year for it, for twenty-one years, if the incumbent live so long." In 1650, the rectory of Church Langton, with its divers chapels, was returned to be worth 100l.; "the minister sufficient, and one curate sufficient."

"After the death of Archdeacon Bretton, or Britton, in 1669, the patron is said to have presented two several clerks to the Bishop for institution; both of whom being refused *for lack of learning*, he presented Nathaniel Alsop, whose abilities were known, and who afterwards purchased the advowson; which continued in his family till sold to the Rev. Mr. Hanbury, who, in 1753, became Rector on his own presentation\*."

The rectorial house is a handsome uniform building, erected by the present Mr. Hanbury. In the village of West Langton was born WALTER DE LANGTON, who was appointed Lord high treasurer of England, Sept. 28, 1295, and elected Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, Feb. 20, 1295-6. He was a particular favorite with Edward the First, in whose cause he suffered excommunication, and whose corpse he had afterwards the honour of conducting from the borders of Scotland to Westminster. Immediately on his arrival in London, he was arrested and imprisoned in the Tower; and though the clergy repeatedly petitioned Edward the Second to grant his release, yet he was shifted from the tower to Wallingford, thence to York, and detained for two years before he obtained his freedom. He then retired to his See at *Lichfield*, and though he found the cathedral mean, yet, says Fuller, he left it magnificent. Langton con-

F f 4

tinued

\* Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. p. 665.



continued in this See twenty-five years, during which time he "encompassed the cloisters with a stone wall, and bestowed a rich shrine upon St. Chad, which cost him 2000*l*. He also ditched and walled that enclosure about the cathedral called the *Close*; erected two stately gates at the west and south sides of it; and joined it to the city by the bridges that he built there in 1310. He also built a new palace at the east end of the close at Lichfield, and repaired his castle at Eccleshall, his palace by the Strand in London, and his manor-house of Shutborough, in the county of Stafford. He died Nov. 16, 1321, and was buried in the chapel of St. Mary, a stately and costly building of his own erecting\*."

THOMAS STAVELEY, author of the "*Romish Horseleech*," was born at East Langton in 1626, and after completing his college education at Cambridge, was admitted of the Inner Temple in July, 1647. He did not publish any other work, but left some MS collections, among which was "*a History of Churches*," which was published in 1712, and again with "*Improvements*" in 1773. Mr. Staveley also made some collections for the Borough of Leicester, which have been used by Mr. Nichols; who has also published portraits of Mr. Staveley and his wife in his History of Leicestershire, Vol. II.

LUBBENHAM, in ancient writings called *Lobenho*, a considerable village, is two miles west of Market Harborough, on the northern bank of the river Welland, which here divides the county from that of Northampton. The parish contains more than 3000 acres of land, the whole of which is inclosed, and mostly kept in pasture. In this parish are found some of the fossils called *Astroites*, or vulgarly *Peter stones*. On the bank of the Welland, near the village, are the trenches of an *encampment*, which Mr. Reynolds pronounces to be evidently Roman. "The hills which command it on the north and north-east," observes this gentleman, "made me suppose that such expert soldiers would have chosen a situation not so exposed. But these hills,

\* Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. p. 674.

hills, probably at that time covered with woods, formed a very necessary barrier against the east and north winds, an advantage not to be neglected in their winter habitations. The small river Welland lies at some little distance, and it is probable was originally turned through the south ditch of their camp; but in the highest flood, it never interferes with the area of the camp. The lines of the ramparts are very visible on all sides; but the ditches are nearly obliterated, except to the south. The area of the camp contains about eight acres." Near this is a mount, which Mr. R. calls a tumulus, and the manor-house is inclosed within the entrenchment. It may be remarked, that old manor houses frequently occupy the sites of, or are immediately contiguous to, encampments.

About one mile from Lubbenham, is an old house called PAPILLON HALL, from the name of the person who built it. It now belongs to Charles Bosworth, Esq. The shape of this building is octangular, and it had formerly only one entrance: The rooms were so disposed, that each communicated with the next, and thus every apartment formed a sort of passage room to the others. A moat originally surrounded this odd building, but it has been filled up. The family of Papillon was settled in Leicestershire at an early period; and David Papillon\* obtained a licence† from Archbishop Abbot, in May, 1623, for himself and

\* He was author of a work entitled, "A practical abstract of the Arts of Fortification and Assailing; containing four different methods of fortification, with approved rules to set out in the field, all manner of superficies, intrenchments," &c. 1645. He also published a volume, entitled, "The Vanity of the Lives and Passions of Men," 1651.

† It appears from this circumstance, that a person in former times had not the free choice of attending any other church, but that of his own parish. Should he feel inclined to frequent another, an express licence from the primate of his diocese was necessary, as exemplified in the above instance; and in the History of Lambeth Palace and Parish, is a reference to a licence granted by Archbishop Parker, to his son John Parker, who, with his family, were enjoined to appear in the parish church on two Sundays or festivals



and family to frequent the church of Marston, in the county of Northampton, as being nearer and more convenient for them than the parish church of Lubbenham, which was above a mile from his house; in this licence is a proviso, that he and his family should at least once in the year (at Easter) go to the church of Lubbenham, to hear prayers and preaching, and receive the sacrament.

MEDBOURN, a pleasant village near the S. E. angle of the county, is six miles N. E. of Harborough, and consists of 102 houses, with 461 inhabitants. The village is situated at the western base of a large and lofty hill, and the lordship consists of about 1800 acres, mostly in open field.

Mr. Burton states, that Medbourn has "doubtless been a *Roman station*, as a great number of coins and medals have been found here." In the year 1721, a *tesselated pavement* was discovered at this village. It was again opened in 1793, and found to be about three feet and a half beneath the surface. The floor consisted of small square stones, of about three quarters of an inch over; most of these were coloured red, black, &c. but the pavement does not appear to have been ornamented with any figures. In a field N. W. of the village, are the remains of *entrenchments*, with foundations, &c. covering a plot of ground of about half a mile square. "Tradition says, that in this field once stood a city called *Midenborough*, or *Medenborough*, which was destroyed by fire; and there appears some degree of probability in the name, from the situation and the present town now retaining the former, part of the traditional name. The undisturbed part of the *Roman Road* is lofty and visible for four or five hundred yards; and when it joins Slauston lordship, it is called *Port-Hill*; a very strong evidence in favour of a station and Roman road being

festivals every year. This Parker was allowed the privilege of an Oratory, either in his house at Lambeth, or at Nunney Castle in Somersetshire; or in any house which he might for a time inhabit: a similar licence, dated 1455, is mentioned in the same work, granted to the host of the Checker-Inn, in Lambeth, by the Bishop of Winchester.

being here. In this field were three barrows, or tumuli\*, but none of these are perfect. Numerous coins, pieces of pottery, bones, &c. and a small mill-stone, have been discovered here. Some of the coins are represented by engravings in the history of Leicestershire.

At HOLT, a hamlet attached to Medbourn, a *mineral spring* was discovered in 1728; and Dr. Short published a pamphlet in 1742, descriptive of the "contents, virtues, and uses of Nevil-Holt spaw-water; with some histories of its signal effects in various diseases," &c. This was reprinted with additions, &c. in 1749. In the church at Holt, are some monuments to the family of *Nevill*; a descendant of whom, Cosmas Nevill, Esq. F. S. A. has a large handsome house here.

The village of NORTON, anciently called King's Norton, seven and half miles distant from Leicester, has a remarkably handsome small modern church, which was built by the late William Fortrey, Esq. who died, seized of the lordship of Norton, in the year 1783. The church consists of only a nave, at the west end of which is a steeple. The whole building is uniform in style, and has seven pointed arched windows on each side, with three at the east end. These are all divided into four lights each, by a perpendicular and a horizontal mullion, over which is a quaterfoil opening. The parapet has two rows of perforated stones, and the summit is ornamented with sixteen crocketed pinnacles. The inside of this sacred structure is fitted up with two rows of pews (in the manner of collegiate chapels) made of fine English oak.

The church of King's Norton was given to the abbot and convent of Ouston, by Robert Grimbald, and confirmed to them by King Henry the Second, and again by King Richard the First. Some disputes arose between the rector and the abbot, at three or four different times; and the Pope appointed delegates to settle these differences.

NOSELEY,

\* Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. p. 117.



NOSELEY, in some old writings written *Noveslie*, *Nouslee*, and *Gnousale*, is a village, about seven miles north from Market Harborough. Here is an old manor house, called *Noseley-Hall*, which belongs to the Hesilrige family; and was much enlarged and nearly rebuilt by Sir Arthur Hesilrige, Bart. who was an admirer of the fine Arts, and passed a considerable time in Rome and other parts of Italy; whence he brought home many pictures and antiques. Among these are the following: A large portrait of *Peter the Great*, painted when he was in England in 1698. A portrait of the late *Sir Arthur Hesilrige*, in the Green parlour, where are some other pictures painted by *Francisco Trevisani*, at Rome, in 1723. A full length of *Buffardin*, who was musician to the King of Poland, with two listening females. Portraits of *Albano*, *Rembrandt*, *Pietro de Testa*, *Raffael*, *Michael Angelo*, and *Titian*. Large portraits of *George Villiers*, first duke of Buckingham; and of *Henry Rich*, first Earl of Holland. In the dining room are six views of different subjects in and near Rome. Full length of *Caianus*, a Swede, æt. 27, painted by E. Seaman; he was seven feet ten inches high, and was shewn at the king's theatre in London, in 1734. Two small portraits of *King Charles the First* and his *Queen*: a whole length portrait of *Oliver Cromwell* in armour. His head is uncovered, and an attendant at his side is tying his sash. Besides these, here are a great number of portraits, landscapes, and other pictures. Part of the house is now occupied by a farmer; but the principal rooms are fast hastening to decay.

The church at Noseley, with the tithes and the churches of Carleton, Glenfield, and Balgrave, and two virgates of land, were given by Hugo de Grentesmainell to the abbey and convent of *St. Ebrulph*. Leland says, at Noseley "is a collegiate paroch church, of three priests, two clerkes, and four choristers. Noseley longeth to the Blaketes; and an heir general of them, aboute Edward the Third tyme, was married to one Roger Mortevalle, that foundid the litle college of Noseley. This Noseley and other

other landes thereabout cam onto two doughters of one of the Morteilles, whereof one was married onto Hughe Hastings; the other was a nunne, and alienid much of her parte. After this, Nosely, by an heire generele, cam in mariage to Hesilrig, in which name it dothe yet remayne. The name of Hesilrig came out of Scotlende\*." The church is large, and consists of a nave and chancel of the same height and width. In the eastern window of the latter is some *painted glass*, consisting of figures of some of the Apostles, with scrolls and coats of arms. In the chancel is three *stone-seats* and a piscina, and in the body of the church are two piscinæ and a locker. Here is also a very elegant *font*, ornamented with pannelled compartments, tracery, foliated pinnacles, pediments, &c. In the chancel is a large Tombstone of black and white marble, with the effigies of three persons; a man, in amour, and two women. On the pedestal are the figures of twelve persons kneeling, the children of Sir Arthur *Hesilrige* by his two wives, as described in the following inscription:

"Here lyes SIR ARTHUR HESILRIGE, Baronet, who enjoyed his portion of this life in y<sup>e</sup> time of grèatest civill troubles y<sup>t</sup> ever this nation had. He was a lover of liberty, and faithfull to his country. He delighted in sober company; and departed this life, 7th of January, in England's peaceable year, Anno Dom. 1660.—Here lyes DAME FRANCES HESILRIGE, daughter of Thomas Elmes, of Lilford, in y<sup>e</sup> county of Northampton, Esq. She was charitable, prudent, virtuous, and a loving wife. Sir Arthur Hesilrige had by her two sons and two daughters. She dyed in y<sup>e</sup> year 1632.—Here lies DAME DOROTHEA HESILRIGE, sister to Robert Greevill, Lord Brooke, and Baron of Beauchamps-Court. God gave to her true and great wisdom, and a large and just heart: she did much good in her generation. Sir Arthur Hesilrige had by her three sons and five daughters. She left this life y<sup>e</sup> 28 of January, 1650."

In the chancel is another *monument*, with recumbent effigies of Sir THOMAS HESILRIGE, Knt. and "dame Frances" his wife; and on the pediment are the kneeling statues of eight sons and six

\* Itinerary, Vol. I. p. 15.



six daughters. Here are monuments and inscriptions to other persons of the same family. But the church and monuments will all soon totally perish from neglect.

OUSTON, or OSULVESTON, formerly written *Oselweston*, *Oulveston*, and by Leland *Wofolveston*, is a village situated in a portion of Gartre hundred, that is environed with that of East Goscote. The whole lordship contains about 3000 acres of land, 400 of which are occupied by woods. At this place Robert Grimbold, one of the justices of England in the time of Henry the Second, founded a small ABBEY, for canons regular of the order of St. Augustin. This was endowed with the whole "township of Osulveston and the advowson of the church there, with its chapels of Mardefeld and Nybothle; and the advowson also of the churches of Burrow and Slauston, and a moiety of that of Withcote, all in this county." Other lands and churches were afterwards given to it. Mr. Nichols has printed a curious inventory of the goods, &c. remaining in this abbey in 1539, when most of them were sold. The site of this monastery, with the demesne lands, together of the yearly value of 43l. were leased at the dissolution to Roger Ratcliffe, Esq. by indenture under the Seal of the court of Augmentation. When Buck visited Leicestershire, there was a large gateway, with several apartments of the abbey house remaining; but these have since been taken down.

At PICKWELL, a village on the eastern side of the county, was born, Dec. 30, 1637, WILLIAM CAVE, son of the Rev. John Cave. This gentleman obtained several eminent promotions; being first appointed vicar of the church at Islington, Middlesex, where he was buried in August, 1713. He was appointed chaplain to King Charles the Second, and was made a canon of Windsor. Dr. Cave was author of several publications; among which his 'Lives of the Apostles', folio, 1676.—'Lives of the Primitive Fathers,' folio, 1677—and 'Primitive Christianity,' first printed in 1672; and since several times republished, have obtained

tained most celebrity. "He was," says Mr. Nichols, "an excellent and universal scholar, an elegant and polite writer, and a florid and very eloquent preacher. He was thoroughly acquainted with the history and constitution of the Christian church."

SADINGTON, a village on a gravelly eminence, about six miles N. W. of Harborough, was a royal demesne in the time of Edward the Confessor, and was then valued at four pounds a year. After the conquest it was estimated at nine pounds a year, and is recorded in the Domesday-Survey as belonging to the new monarch. Part of the *Union Canal* passes through this lordship; and in cutting a *Tunnel*, about half a mile north of the village, several curious *fossils* were discovered. Among these were some *Ammonites*, or *Cornu-Ammonis*, which appeared as if formed of brass; others were of a dark-blue colour, and some were black, and bore a "beautiful polish." Besides these, petrified cockles, muscles, and oysters, were obtained in abundance, and the earth appeared to contain much mineral substance.

In the village of SCRAPTOFT, four miles east of Leicester, is SCRAPTOFT HALL, a seat belonging to Edward Hartoppe Wigley, Esq. and surrounded by a mass of fine woods, which cover nearly 100 acres of land. In the church-yard is a small *stone cross*, consisting of a single fluted shaft, raised on three circular steps.

STAUNTON, called *Staunton-Wyvile*, and *Staunton-Brudenell*, from the lords who possessed it at different periods, is a village about three miles north of Harborough. Of the former family was ROBERT DE WYVILE, who was born here, and made Bishop of Salisbury, at the instance of Philippa, Queen of King Edward the Third, in 1329. After officiating in this see for forty-six years, he died in Sherborne Castle, Dorsetshire, Sept. 4, 1375, and was buried in his cathedral at Salisbury, where is a large marble slab, inlaid with a brass plate, to his memory. Fuller observes of this Bishop, that "it is hard to say, whether he were more



more dunce, or dwarf; more unlearned, or unhandsome; inso-much that T. Walsingham tells us, that had the Pope ever seen him (as no doubt he felt him in his large fees) he would never have conferred the place upon him." Mr. Gough, in his splendid work on "*Sepulchral Monuments*," has given an engraved view of the brass plate\*, which represents a castle, with a warrior standing as centinel at the entrance door, and the Bishop looking out of a large window above. In the church at Staunton are several monuments, with inscriptions to different persons of the Brudenell family, of whom was *Robert Brudenell*, Knight, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and the first of the family who inherited Staunton.

STOCKERSTON is a small village, of old inclosure, in the south eastern angle of the county, part of which is in Rutlandshire. John de Boyville founded an *hospital* here, for a chaplain and three poor people, by licence from King Edward IV. in 1466, and obtained permission to settle lands upon them in mortmain, to the value of 10l. a year. This John de Boyville died in 1467, possessed of the lordships of Stockerston and Cranhoe, and other considerable property, which devolved to his three daughters and coheirs, who made partition of their father's lands, by deed dated May 17th, 8th Edward IV. Some of the windows in Stockerston church are ornamented with *painted glass*; among which are figures of saints, and other scripture illustrations.

WISTOW, or, as written in old records, *Wistanesto*, *Wystan-stow*, and *Winstanton*, from Wistan, "a reputed saint, or holy person, to whom the church is dedicated," is a village about seven miles from Leicester, and nearly the same distance from Harborough. In this parish is WISTOW HALL, formerly the seat of the Halford family, wherein *Sir Richard Halford* furnished King Charles

\* Another plate of it, with some particulars respecting the Bishop, are given in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. p. 914, &c.

Charles the First with a place of refuge and retirement. He also supplied the monarch with large sums of money, and sent his eldest son, Andrew, with a number of men, whom he had raised and maintained at his own charge, to protect and attend his Majesty in Leicestershire, and the adjoining counties. In their excursions they took a party of the rebels prisoners, among whom was a person of the name of Flude, who was then High Constable of Guthlaxton hundred. These were all conveyed to the King's camp, where they were tried and hanged; and for which Sir Richard Halford was doomed to suffer severely. Oliver condemned him to die for the murder of these men; but his life was purchased, according to the statement of Sir William Halford, "for no less a sum than 30,000l." In the Journals of the House of Commons, Vol. III. p. 572, is the following entry respecting this gentleman: "Resolved, upon the question, that Sir Richard Halford shall pay 5000l.; it appearing that he put the commission of array in execution in Leicestershire; hath been a main incendiary of the divisions between the king and parliament, and a continual prosecutor of good men; and hath not to this day shewed himself in any considerable matter that hath conduced to advance the proceedings of parliament. Hath 1800l. lands per annum, under his own stock; besides, he rents much, and stocks it himself; and therefore we hold him fit to pay the said 5000l.; his son's estate not being considered in this valuation."—Again, in another entry, "August 16, 1645, Sir Richard Halford's fine of 2000l. was accepted for his delinquency."

WISTOW-HALL is a marked feature in this part of the country, from the formal plantations which encompass the mansion. This consists of brick encased with stucco, and has in the principal front five gable pediments. The principal room is a large lofty hall, which extends nearly the whole length of the house. Here are PORTRAITS of King *Charles the First* and his son, King CHARLES the SECOND, and a few other pictures. This demesne now belongs to the Countess Dowager of Denbigh, who enjoys it for life, under the will of her first husband, Sir Charles Halford. In the church, which is contiguous to the mansion, are



some monuments, with inscriptions to different persons of the Halford family. On one of these is an effigy of a knight in armour, laying on his side, and resting his head on his right hand, with the following inscription:—

“ MS.

*Orimur, morimur, exorimur.*

Here lyeth the body of SIR RICHARD HALFORD, K<sup>t</sup>. and Baronn<sup>t</sup>, eldest sonn of Edward Halford, of Langham, in the county of Ryeland, Gent. He first married Isabel the daughter of George Bowman, of Medbourn, in the county of Leicester, Gent. by whom he had issue two sons, Andrew & George, & one daughter Joan. Afterwards he married Joan, the relict of Thomas Adams, of Walden, in the county of Essex, Esq. He departed this life August 30th, An<sup>o</sup> D<sup>n</sup>i 1638, Aged 78 years.

Here also lye y<sup>e</sup> bodies of Andrew Halford, of Kilby, Esq. who departed y<sup>e</sup> life Septemb. 8th, An<sup>o</sup> D<sup>n</sup>i 1657, aged 55 yeares; and of George Halford of Torlaxton, Gent. who departed this life August 18, An<sup>o</sup> D<sup>n</sup>i 1659, Aged 54 yeares.”

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GUTHLAXTON HUNDRED assumes a wedge-like shape, with its narrow point running up nearly to the town of Leicester, and its broad end towards the south, abutting on the counties of Warwick and Northampton. Its western boundary is Sparkenhoe hundred, whilst the hundred of Gartre, bounds the eastern side. Mr. Nichols supposes that this hundred obtained its name from Saint Guthlac, a celebrated Anchorite, who resided at Croyland in Lincolnshire, and who acquired very eminent notoriety by pretended miracles, and other monkish impositions. This hundred formerly included that of Sparkenhoe, which was separated from it in the reign of King Edward the Third. It contains only one market town, Lutterworth, though, in the reign of King Henry the Third, a market was held at Ernesby (Arnesby). Parts of the two Roman roads, called *Watling Street*, and the *Foss-Way*, are attached to this hundred: the former constituting its boundary to the south west, and the latter divides it, for some distance, from the

the hundred of Sparkenhoe to the west. At, or near *High Cross*, where these roads intersected each other, Camden, and some other authors, have affixed the Roman station of *Venones*, or *Benones*; and at Dowbridge was another station, or encampment. This hundred affords but little subject for the investigation and description of the antiquary and topographer.

The hundred court for Guthlaxton is now annually held by the steward of the Lord Somers, at Kilby. This hundred is at present divided, as stated by Mr. Nichols, into the following townships, parishes, &c.

|                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Arnesby</i> , a vicarage.                                                                                                                      | <i>Bittesby</i> , <i>Wibtoft</i> , and <i>Wigston Parva</i> ; and the hamlet of <i>Ulles-thorpe</i> .                      |
| <i>Ashby Magna</i> , a vicarage.                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                            |
| <i>Ashby Parva</i> , a rectory.                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                            |
| <i>Ayleston</i> , a rectory; including the chapelries of <i>Glen Parva</i> and <i>Lubbes-thorpe</i> (in Sparkenhoe hundred).                      | <i>Cosby</i> , a vicarage; including the chapelry of <i>Little-Thorpe</i> .                                                |
| <i>Bitteswell</i> , a vicarage.                                                                                                                   | <i>Cottesbach</i> , a rectory.                                                                                             |
| <i>Blaby</i> , a rectory; including the chapelry of <i>Countess-thorpe</i> .                                                                      | <i>Dunton Basset</i> , a vicarage.                                                                                         |
| <i>Broughton Astley</i> , a rectory; including the chapelry of <i>Sutton</i> , and the hamlet of <i>Thorpe</i> , otherwise <i>Prince Thorpe</i> . | <i>Enderby</i> , [in Sparkenhoe hundred] a vicarage, with the chapelry of <i>Whetstone</i> , in Guthlaxton hundred.        |
| <i>Brunting-thorpe</i> , a rectory.                                                                                                               | <i>Foston</i> , a rectory.                                                                                                 |
| <i>The Castle View</i> ; an extra-parochial district. This is connected with the town of Leicester.                                               | <i>Frolesworth</i> , a rectory.                                                                                            |
| <i>Cat-thorpe</i> , a rectory.                                                                                                                    | <i>Gilmorton</i> , a rectory.                                                                                              |
| <i>Claybrook</i> , a rectory; including <i>Claybrook Magna</i> and <i>Parva</i> , with the chapelries of                                          | <i>Kilby</i> , a chapelry of <i>Wistow</i> .                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                   | <i>Kilworth, North</i> , a rectory.                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                   | <i>Kilworth, South</i> , a rectory.                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                   | <i>Kimcote</i> , a rectory; with the chapelry of <i>Walton</i> , and hamlet of <i>Cotes-Deville</i> .                      |
|                                                                                                                                                   | <i>Knaptoft</i> , a rectory, with the chapelries of <i>Mousely</i> and <i>Shearsby</i> , and the hamlet of <i>Walton</i> . |



- |                                                                                                |                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Knighton</i> , a chapelry to the church of <i>St. Margaret</i> at Leicester.                | <i>Peatling Parva</i> , a rectory.                                                |
| <i>Leire</i> , a rectory.                                                                      | <i>Shawell</i> , a rectory.                                                       |
| <i>Lutterworth</i> , a rectory.                                                                | <i>Stanford</i> , a vicarage, (partly in Northamptonshire).                       |
| <i>Misterton</i> , a rectory; including the chapelries of <i>Poultney</i> and <i>Walcote</i> . | <i>Stormsworth</i> , a decayed village; including the manor of <i>West-rill</i> . |
| <i>The Newark</i> , and the <i>South Fields</i> , in and near the town of Leicester.           | <i>Swinford</i> , a vicarage.                                                     |
| <i>Oadby</i> , a vicarage.                                                                     | <i>Whetstone</i> , (originally a chapelry of <i>Enderby</i> ); see above.         |
| <i>Peatling Magna</i> , a vicarage.                                                            | <i>Wigston Magna</i> , a vicarage.                                                |
|                                                                                                | <i>Willoughby Waterless</i> , a rectory."                                         |

At the southern extremity of this hundred is CAT-THORPE, a village, which is situated on the side of a gentle eminence, and commands a view of a pleasant valley, through which the river Avon winds its course. Over this stream, about three-quarters of a mile south-west of the village, is *Dowbridge*, or *Dovebridge*, near the *Tripontium*\* of Antoninus. Dr. Stukeley describes the bridge as "placed in a sweet little valley, with the sides pretty steep. The stream here divides into two, with a bridge over each; upon one a stone inscription, very laconic, shewing the three counties that repair it. Hard by antiquities have been found, both at Cat-thorpe and Lilburn, one on the north, the other on the south side of the river; so that the Roman city stood on both sides. Castle-hills, a place of Lilburn, where are some old walls †." Vestiges of encampments appear both on the Northamptonshire and on the Leicestershire sides. The Roman road passed through the middle of an encampment, which, Mr. Ireland says, "was indisputably the Roman station mentioned by Antoninus, in his journey from London to Lincoln, under the denomination

\* Camden assigns this station to Towcester; Horsley places it at Buckley; and Dr. Henry fixes it at Rugby.

† Stukeley's Itinerary, Vol. I. p. 112.

nomination of Tripontium. The circular tumulus, called by different writers the *Prætorium Augurale*, or *Augustale*, is sixty feet in height, having its base formed by a rampart or vallum, washed on the north side by the river Avon. This elevated spot, which commands a view of the whole encampment, was allotted to the general, the superior officers, and young men of rank who served as volunteers. On the eastern side of the *Prætorium*, and adjoining to it, is the upper camp, the north side of which is in like manner washed by the Avon. The northern side of the *Prætorium*, with that of the upper camp, form one line, two hundred and seventy-six feet in length. The inner vallum, or agger of the middle camp, is only twenty-eight feet in height, being defended by the river \*." South of this encampment is another of larger dimensions, which is separated from the former by a foss. Its southernmost outer vallum is about two hundred and fifty-eight feet in length, and the height of the inner vallum is fifty-seven feet †.

SWINFORD, a village and parish adjoining that of Cat-thorpe, was originally a preceptory of the Knights Templars; and within the church was a chantry, founded by Nicholas Cowley, for one Priest to sing mass, &c. The gift of this chantry was in the king, in right of the late monastery of Leicester. The church here has a semicircular east end, which being without windows, renders the altar very dark and gloomy. In the church is a large circular *font*, standing on four short columns, and ornamented with a series of arches running all round.

In the parish of Stanford is STANFORD-HALL, the seat of the Cave family, some of whom resided here for many generations; but the chief property in this place was purchased after the dissolution, by *Thomas Cave*, Esq. At that period the manor, rec-

G g 3

tory,

\* Picturesque Views on the Upper, or Warwickshire Avon, p. 32, &c.

† As the principal part of this station is within Northamptonshire, I shall probably be induced to give some further account of it when describing that county.



tory, and advowson, of the vicarage of Stanford, with all the messuages, lands, and tenements, in Stanford upon Avon, Downe, Stormesworth, and Boresworth, part of the possessions of Selby Abbey, were first transferred to this family, the principal branch of which had previously resided at Cave, in Yorkshire. Sir *Thomas Cave*, who died in 1778, was an active, liberal, and learned public character. He completed the family mansion at Stanford, and stored its library with a large and well-selected collection of books. Being partial to topographical literature, he contributed very materially towards the publication of Bridges's History of Northamptonshire, which was above fifty years in the press. He also made ample collections for the history of his own county; and though he did not live long enough to arrange these for publication, the proprietor of them has very liberally submitted the whole to the use and benefit of the present indefatigable historian of the county.

Stanford Hall is now the property and residence of Henry Otway, Esq. in right of his wife, only sister to the last Sir Thomas Cave, and is a large convenient family mansion, seated in a fine park. In front of the house the river Avon is forced beyond its original banks, and constitutes a pleasant feature in the landscape. The whole of the village is within the county of Northampton; and in the church are some monumental memorials, with inscriptions to different persons of the Cave family.

CLAYBROOK is a large parish, comprehending an area of about four miles in length, by nearly two miles and a half in breadth; and contains, according to estimation, 4000 acres of land. The parish is divided into two villages; the one indiscriminately called *Great-Claybrook*, *Nether-Claybrook*, or *Lower-Claybrook*: the other *Little-Claybrook*, *Over-Claybrook*, or *Upper-Claybrook*. The church stands in the latter, which is situated on the great turnpike-road between Lutterworth and Hinckley. Though the two Claybrooks have separate poor-rates and overseers, yet they are subject to the jurisdiction of one constable; and the land-tax in both lordships is collected by the same assess-

sors,

sors. About two miles westward of Over-Claybrook is a place, now called *High-Cross*, but which, according to some antiquaries, was the *Benonæ*, or *Vennones*, of the Romans. Dr. Stukeley describes this station as situated at the intersection of the two great Roman roads, "which traverse the kingdom obliquely, and seem to be the centre, as well as the highest ground in England; for from hence rivers run every way. The Foss-road went on the backside of an inn standing here, and so towards Bath. The ground hereabout is very rich, and much *ebulus* (an herb much sought after for the cure of dropsies,) grows here. Claybrook lane has a piece of a quickset hedge left across it, betokening one side of the Foss; which road, in this place, bears exactly N. E. and S.W. as it does upon the moor on this side of Lincoln. In the garden before the inn abovementioned, a tumulus was removed about the year 1720, under which the body of a man was found upon the plain surface; as likewise hath been under several others hereabouts: and foundations of buildings have been frequently dug up along the street here, all the way to Cleycestre, through which went the great street-way, called Watling-street; for on both sides of the way have been ploughed and dug up many ancient coins, great square stones and bricks, and other rubbish of that ancient Roman building; not far from a beacon, standing upon the way now called High-Cross, of a cross which stood there some time, upon the meeting of another great way\*."

A short distance west of High-Cross is a tumulus, called Cloudsley-bush; about which Dugdale offers some conjectures, but nothing explanatory has been published. The preceding observations of Dr. Stukeley, and what has been advanced by other writers, do not satisfactorily prove the existence of any considerable Roman station at this place; and therefore if the *Venonæ* of Antoninus was here, it must have been merely a small temporary station, or guard camp, on the roads. The situation is high, and the surrounding country low and flat. It is said that fifty-seven churches may be seen from this spot, by the help of a glass.

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At

\* *Itinerarium Curiosum*, edition 1724, p. 104.



At the intersection of the roads is the pedestal, &c. of a *Cross*, which was erected here in 1712, and on which are two Latin inscriptions. The following judicious remarks on the customs, manners, and dialect, of the common people of this district, by Mr. Macaulay, who published a *History of Claybrook*, may be amusing to many readers. The people here are much attached to *Wakes*; and, among the farmers and cottagers, these annual festivals are celebrated with music, dancing, feasting, and much inoffensive sport; but in the manufacturing villages "the return of the wake never fails to produce a week, at least, of idleness, intoxication, and riot: these, and other abuses, by which those festivals are so grossly perverted from the original end of their institution, render it highly desirable to all the friends of order, of decency, and of religion, that they were totally suppressed." On Plow-Monday is annually displayed a set of *Morris Dancers*; and the custom of ringing the *Curfew* is still continued here. On Shrove-Tuesday a bell rings at noon, as a signal for people to begin frying their pancakes. The *dialect* of the common people is broad, and partakes of the Anglo Saxon sounds and terms. "The letter H comes in almost on every occasion where it ought not, and is as frequently omitted where it ought to come in. The words *fine*, *mine*, and such like, are pronounced as if spelt *foine*, *moine*; and *place*, *face*, with other similar words, as if spelt *pleace*, *feace*; and in the plural sometimes you hear *pleacen*; *closen* for *closes*; and many other words in the same style of Saxon termination. The words *there* and *where*, are generally pronounced *theere* and *wehere*; the words *mercy*, *deserve*, &c. thus, *marcy*, *desarve*. The following peculiarities are also observable: *uz*, strongly aspirated for *us*; *war* for *was*, *meed* for *maid*, *faither* for *father*, *e'ery* for *every*, *brig* for *bridge*, *thurrough* for *furrow*, *hawf* for *half*, *cart-rit* for *rut*, *malefactory* for *manufactory*, *inactions* for *anxious*. The words *mysen* and *himsen* are sometimes used instead of *myself* and *himself*; the word *shack* is used to denote an idle, worthless vagabond; and the word *ripe* for one who is very profane. The following phrases are

are common, "a power of people;"—"a hantle of money;"—"I don't know I'm sure;"—"I can't awhile as yet as." The words *like* and *such* frequently occur as expletives in conversation: for example, "If you don't give me my price *like*, I won't stay here hagling all day and *such*." The monosyllable *as* is generally substituted for *that*; for instance, "the last time *as* I called."—"I reckon *as* I an't one."—I imagine that I am not singular. It is common to stigmatize public characters by saying that they "set poor lights;" and to express surprise by saying, "dear heart alive!" The substantive *right* generally usurps the place of *ought*: for instance, "Farmer A. has a *right* to pay his tax."—"The assessor has a just *right* to give him a receipt."—"Next ways," and "clever through," are in common use: Thus, "I shall go next ways clever through Ullesthorpe." *Nigh-hand* for probably, as, "He'll nigh-hand call on us." *Duable*, convenient or proper: thus, "the church is not served at duable hours." It is not uncommon for the wives of farmers to style their husbands *Our Master*, and for the husbands to call their wives *Mamy*; and a labourer will often distinguish his wife by calling her *the O'man*. There are many people now living, who well remember the time when "Goody" and "Dame"—"Gaffer" and "Gammer," were in vogue among the peasantry of Leicestershire; but they are now almost universally discarded, and supplanted by Mr. and Mrs. which are indiscriminately applied to all ranks, from the squire and his lady down to Mr. and Mrs. Pauper, who flaunt in rags, and drink tea twice a day\*."

A *Sunday-School* was instituted in the parish of Claybrook in 1786, and is liberally supported by the contributions of the parishioners.

At KNAPTOTT, near Shearsby, and at the distance of ten miles south of Leicester, the church is in ruins, and traces of an ancient *encampment* are still visible. Here are also some remains of an old *mansion-house*, at one angle of which was a circular embattled tower.

\* \* History and Antiquities of Claybrook."



tower. In the contiguous village of Shearsby is a *salt spring*, the water of which has proved serviceable in some scorbutic complaints.

### LUTTERWORTH,

Now the only market-town in this hundred, is thirteen miles south of Leicester, and had its weekly mart, with an annual fair, granted it by King Henry the Fifth, in the second year of his reign. Two other fairs have since been obtained for the town. Lutterworth is situated on the bank of the small river Swift, which, soon after leaving the town, joins the Avon. Leland describes this "towne as scant half so bigge as Lughborow; but in it there is an hospital of the foundation of two or three of the Verdounes, that were lords of auncient tyme of the towne. A good part of the landes of Verdounes be cum in processe unto the Lord-Marquise of Dorsett. And the college of Asscheley, in Warwickshire, by Nunerton, where the late Lorde Thomas Marquise of Dorsete was buried, was of the foundation of Thomas Lorde Asteley. And all the landes and manor that the Lorde Marquise of Dorsete hath in that egge of Leicestershire, or Warwickshire, were long-spring sum time to the Verdounes and Astleis. There riseth certain springes in the hilles a mile from Lutterworth\*."

The town of Lutterworth was formerly noted for a peculiar vassalage of its inhabitants; all of whom were obliged to grind their malt at one particular mill, and their corn at another. This custom of feudal tyranny was continued even to the year 1758, when the inhabitants obtained a decision at the Leicester assizes, empowering them to erect mills, and grind where they pleased; and had costs of suit allowed, to the amount of three hundred pounds. In the year 1631, an official order, or decree, was made, enforcing the inhabitants to "grind their corn, malt, and grits, at certain ancient water corn-mills, called the *Lodge-Mills*, and an ancient *malt-mill*, within the manor of Lutterworth." In this order

\* Itinerary, Vol. I. p. 21.

order it is specified, that King James was seised in his "demesne as of fee, in the right of the crown of England, of the said mills, &c. and did grant them in fee-farm unto Edward Ferrars and Francis Phillips, gentlemen, and their heirs and assigns, together with all the suit of mills, and benefit of grinding and mulcture; reserving unto his said late Majesty, his heirs and successors, for ever, the yearly rent of 5l." This arbitrary decree created much litigation; and at length a person, named Bickley, possessing a little more courage and resolution than any of his neighbours, erected a mill in opposition to the old ones. Some other persons soon followed his example, and the proprietors of the "ancient mills" contested their long-established rights by a suit at law, which was terminated, as already observed, in favour of the inhabitants. In 1790 an act of parliament was passed for dividing and inclosing in this parish about 1400 acres of land; in which act Basil Earl of Denbigh and Desmond is mentioned as lord of the manor, a proprietor of considerable part of the lands, and entitled to right of common in the open fields. His Majesty is described as patron of the rectory.

Sir Thomas Cave supposes that Lutterworth formerly contained more houses than it does at present; and particularly notices *Ely Gate*, as standing in a place called The Ely Lane. In 1801 the town contained 277 houses, and 1652 inhabitants.

The *cotton manufacture* is now carried on in this town to a considerable extent; and some large buildings have been lately erected here as factories and workshops. The stocking trade is also carried on here; and many hands are employed in the business. Among the benefactions of this town, the following are entitled to particular notice. *Richard Elkington*, of Shawell, by Will dated May 29th, 1607, gave, in trust, to the mayor, bailiff, and burgesses of Leicester, 50l. to be lent in sums of 10l. each, to five tradesmen of Lutterworth, for the term of one year, at the rate of 5l. per cent. This interest to be distributed among certain poor persons, &c. The same person left a similar legacy to the town of Leicester.—*Edward Sherrier*, of Shawell, clerk, left



left 200l. towards building a school, school-house, and almshouse, in this town.—In the reign of King John an *hospital* was founded here by Roise de Verdon and Nicholas her son, for one priest and six poor men, and “to keep hospitality for poor men travelling that way\*.” “The statutes for the regulation of this hospital were drawn up soon after the year 1310, under the sanction of John D'Alderby, Bishop of Lincoln, and are preserved among the records of that cathedral†.” In 1322, Wm. Poyntell gave eight messuages, with one yard land and a quarter, lying in Hill-Morton, in the county of Warwick, to this hospital, for a chantry priest to sing mass for the souls of the said William and his wife. Some other donations were afterwards made to this hospital; for, as Mr. Nichols observes, “so desirous were the men of former ages to add their benevolent shares, even to the additional support of religious places founded by others.”

In this town is only one meeting-house, which was built in 1777, and is numerously attended by dissenters. The parish church is a large handsome building, with a nave, two aisles, a tower, and a chancel, which last is separated from the nave by “a beautiful screen.” The chancel, Burton supposes, was built by the Lord Ferrers of Groby, as his arms are cut on the outside over the great window. By a storm, which occurred in 1703, the spire was blown down, and, falling on the roof of the church, did great damage to the building, pews, &c. In the church is a fine old carved oak pulpit, from which the great reformer, *John Wickliffe*, is said to have often addressed his congregation. Wickliffe was presented to the living by King Edward the Third, and died here on the 31st of December, 1387. Being the first person who opposed the authority of the Pope, and the jurisdiction of the Bishops, he was much persecuted, and, even after his bones had laid in the earth about forty-one years, they were ordered, by the Council of Sienna, to be taken from the grave, and, after being burnt, the inveterate spirit of Catholicism committed the

\* Tanner's Notitia, p. 243.

† Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. IV. p. 259.







THE VILLAGE & CHURCH,  
Lancashire.

the ashes to the stream. These desperate proceedings created much commotion; and many crafty tales were invented and propagated to justify the conduct of the priests. "The very names of Wickliffe, Lord Cobham, Huss," &c. says Gilpin, "will not only awaken sentiments of gratitude and veneration, in every ingenuous heart, but will likewise excite a laudable desire of being particularly acquainted with the lives and characters of those eminent worthies, who, in times of peculiar danger and difficulty, nobly dared to oppose the tyrannical usurpation and barbarous superstition of the church of Rome, and sacrificing every valuable consideration on earth to the cause of truth and liberty. Wickliffe was in religion what Bacon was afterwards in science: the great detector of those arts and glosses, which the barbarism of ages had drawn together to obscure the mind of man."

In the church are some old monuments with inscriptions, commemorating different persons of the *Fielding* family, some of whom obtained the titles of Earl of Denbigh\*, and Desmond. They possessed considerable property here. A portrait of Wickliffe, by S. Fielding, is preserved in the church.

Near this town formerly stood a mansion, called the *Spittal*, belonging to the Shuckburgh family.

At Misterton, about a mile east of Lutterworth, is MISTERTON HALL, the seat of Jacob Henry Franks, Esq. who possesses a collection of pictures.

OADBY, a large village, about four miles S. E. of Leicester, is situated on the great turnpike-road, and its buildings extend nearly a mile in length on each side. In 1801, Oadby contained 128 houses and 624 inhabitants. The church is large, and contains some specimens of ancient sculpture; also two stone seats, and a piscina in the chancel.

WIGSTON MAGNA, GREAT WIGSTON, or WIGSTON WITH TWO STEEPLES, is a large village, about four miles to the south  
of

\* A very copious account of this family is published in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. IV.



of Leicester, and is distinguished by having two churches with steeples, &c. though one of them being disused is now falling to decay. By an act of parliament, passed in 1764, for inclosing about 3000 acres of land in this parish, it appears that George, Duke of St. Alban's was impropiator of all the tithes of corn, grain, hay, &c. in several fields and parcels of ground therein specified; and that the vicar was entitled to the tithe of wool and lamb, and all other vicarial or small tithes. By the population act of 1801, Great Wigston contained 352 houses and 1658 inhabitants, the greater part of whom were employed in trade, manufactures, &c. Here is an hospital, founded by Mrs. Clarke, of Leicester, for three poor men and as many women, who are provided with habitations, a weekly allowance of money to each, and an annual gift of coals. Here is a *meeting-house* for presbyterians, who are numerous in this village. Within the lordship is a piece of moated ground, with some ruins of walls, where the family of the Davenports, who formerly possessed a large estate here, had a mansion. At a place called the *Gaol Close*, was a temporary prison during the civil wars, to which the prisoners were removed from the county gaol at Leicester. Some fragments of antiquity have been discovered here; among which were parts of a fibula, a ring, pieces of a glass urn, pottery, a spear-head and helmet. Several petrifications have been found in the lime and gravel pits here.

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SPARKENHOE HUNDRED is bounded on the north by the hundred of West Goscote, and parts of Staffordshire and Warwickshire bound it to the west and south, whilst the eastern side is united to the hundred of Guthlaxton. This part of the county is distinguished by some elevated tracts of land, and is watered by several small streams. A part of the Ashby de la Zouch canal passes through it from north to south; and just after entering it, at Snareson, proceeds under a hill by a tunnel. It afterwards passes Gopsal Park, Shakerston, Carlton, and Market-Bosworth, and leaves

leaves the county near Hinckley. The mail-coach road from London to Lichfield, &c. passes along the southern edge of this hundred; and *turnpike roads* are made between Hinckley and Leicester, Hinckley and Ashby de la Zouch, and the latter place and Atherstone in Warwickshire. Within this district are the two market-towns of Hinckley and Bosworth, and near the latter is the memorable scene of battle called Bosworth-Field, where the long disputed contest, between the Houses of York and Lancaster, was finally terminated by the death of Richard the Third.

"In 1346, the Hundred of Sparkenhoe (on the aid then granted for knighting Edward of Woodstock, the king's eldest son) was assessed 34l.; and then said to contain 17 knights' fees\*. The high sheriff of Leicestershire pays annually, to the Earl of Stamford, 10l. for licence to come into this hundred to execute any part of his office†.

"The townships in this hundred, according to Mr. Nichols, are,

*Anebein*, now a depopulated village.

*Appleby Magna*, a rectory; including the hamlet of *Appleby Parva*.

*Aston Flamvile*, a rectory; including the chapelries of *Burbach* and *Sketchley*, with the hamlet of *Smockington*.

*Barwell*, a rectory; including the chapelries of *Potters-Marston* and *Stapleton*.

*Basset-house*; extra parochial.

*Beaumont Leys*; extra-parochial.

[MARKET] *BOSWORTH*, a rectory; including the chapelries of *Barleston*, *Carle-*

*ton*, *Coton*, *Shenton*, and *Sutton Cheynell*; with the hamlets of *Anebein*, *Naneby*, *West Osbaston*, and *Redmere Plain*.

*Bruntingthorpe*, *Danel's Hall*, and *Westcotes*; extra-parochial.

*Caileby*, a rectory; including the hamlet of *East Osbaston*.

*Congeston*, a rectory.

*Croft*, a rectory.

*Desford*, a rectory.

[Fenny] *Drayton*, a rectory.

*Elmesthorpe*, a rectory.

*Enderby*, a vicarage; including the chapelry of *Whetstone* in *Guthlaxton Hundred*.

*Glenfield*, a rectory; including the

\* Rot. Aux. 20 Edw. III.

† S. Carte, MS.



- the chapelries of *Grobby Castle*, *Braunston*, and *Kirby Muxloe*.
- Hether*, a rectory.
- Higham*, a rectory; including the chapelry of *Lindley*.
- HINCKLEY**, a vicarage, with the rectory of *Stoke Golding* united; including the chapelries of *Dadlington* and *Wykin*, and the hamlet of *The Hyde*.
- Ibstock*, a rectory; including the chapelries of *Dunnington*, *Hugglescote*, and *Pickering's* or *Swinfen's Grange*.
- Kirby Malory*, a rectory; including the chapelry of *Earl-Shilton*.
- Lea Grange*, extra-parochial.
- Leicester Forest*, and *Barn Park*.
- Lubbesthorpe*, a chapelry to *Aylston* (described under *Guthlaxton*.)
- Markfield*, a rectory.
- Nailston*, a rectory; including the chapelries of *Barton* and *Normanton*.
- Narborough*, a rectory; including the chapelry of *Huncote*.
- Notbold-Verdun*, a rectory; including the hamlet of *Brescote*.
- Norton*, a rectory; including the chapelry of *Bilston*.
- Orton on the Hill*, a rectory; including the chapelries of *Gopsal* and *Twycross*, and the hamlet of *Morebarne*.
- Peckleton*, a rectory.
- Ratby*, a vicarage; including the hamlets of *Bocheston*, *Newtown*, *Old Hay*, and *Whittington Grange*.
- Sapcote*, a rectory.
- Shakerston*, a vicarage; including the chapelry of *Oddeston*.
- Snareston*, a chapelry to *Sweebston*.
- Sharnford*, a rectory.
- Shepey Magna* and *Parva*, a rectory in two medieties; including the chapelry of *Ratcliff-Culey*.
- Sibbeston*, a rectory; including the chapelries of *Upton* and *Whellesborough*, and *Temple Hall*.
- Stoney-Staunton*, a rectory.
- Thornton*, a vicarage; including the chapelry of *Bagworth*, the hamlet of *Staunton under Bardon*, and *Bardon Park*.
- Thurleston*, a rectory; including *Brakenholme*, *New Hall*, and *Normanton Turville*.
- Tooley Park*; extra-parochial.
- Witherley*, a rectory; including the chapelry of *Atterton*.

HINCKLEY,

## HINCKLEY,

The principal town in this hundred, is situated near the borders of Warwickshire. Soon after the conquest it was created a barony, and held by Hugh de Gretemaisnel, who erected a stately castle here, and also a parish church. "The ruins of the castle," says Leland, "now longying to the king, sumtyme to the Earl of Leicester, be a 5 miles from Leyrcester, and in the borders of Leyrcester forest, and the boundes of Hinckeley be spacious and famose there." In Burton's time only the earthworks of the castle remained: and these are now nearly levelled. The site had long been occupied as a gardener's ground, when, in 1760, it was purchased by William Hurst, Esq. who built a handsome dwelling-house on it; when the foundation of a bridge, which crossed the castle ditch, was discovered. The ditch and town-wall may yet be traced in many places, and also the vestiges of what are called two Roman works; a mount near the river, and the ruins of a bath near the church. A Priory was founded here, according to Tanner, by Robert Blanchmaines, and according to Dugdale by Bossu the father of Robert; but Mr. Nichols controverts those claims, and ascribes it to Hugh de Grentesmaisnel, who gave the priory, with the appropriation of the parish church, to the Abbey of Lira in Normandy. This priory, like all foreign cells, was often seized by the Crown, during the wars with France, and was wholly suppressed by Henry V. when its lands were annexed to the priory of Montgrace in Yorkshire; and, after the dissolution, were given by Henry VIII. with the church, to the dean and chapter of Westminster, the present impropiators.

The parish of Hinckley is of very great extent, and includes *Stoke-Golding*, *Dadlington*, *Wyken*, and *The Hyde*, which, though distinct villages (the latter being in the county of Warwick), are considered as hamlets of Hinckley. The town, under its original lords, certainly enjoyed the privileges of a borough; and probably sent deputies to the great council of the nation: but



being connected with the house of Lancaster, and taking a decided part in favour of that party in the civil contest; whatever those privileges were, they became forfeited to the conquering monarch of the house of York. The town is now divided into *The Borough* and the *Bond* without the liberties. The limits of what is now called the Borough, were anciently those of the town: which has been extended by the successive addition of four streets, *The Bond End*, *The Castle End*, *The Stocken Head*, and *The Duck Paddle*. The civil government of Hinckley is vested in the Mayor, Constables, and Headboroughs. The assizes for the county were formerly held here: but the gaol and the gallows are now removed. On inclosing the common field where the latter stood, many human bones were found in a state of petrification. The introduction of the *stocking manufacture* has greatly augmented the traffic of Hinckley. The first frame was brought into the town, before the year 1640, by William Iliffe, and is said to have cost him sixty pounds; which must have been a very considerable sum at that time, as the price of a good frame is not more than fifteen guineas at present. With this single frame, which, with the help of an apprentice, he kept constantly working day and night, he gained a comfortable subsistence for his family. The manufacture is now so extensive, that a larger quantity of hose is supposed to be made here than in any town in England. Nottingham has more frames; but many of those being confined to the finest sorts, of silk and cotton, the number of stockings there made is less than at Hinckley, where the frames are generally employed on strong serviceable hose, of a lower price, in cotton, thread, and worsted. The number of frames in the town and adjacent villages is computed at upwards of 1,200, which furnish employment to nearly 3,000 persons. A respectable market is held on Mondays; and, on August 26, an annual fair, which, as may be inferred from Shakespeare's mention of it in his second part of Henry the Fourth, was anciently in high repute.

The Parish Church of Hinckley is an ancient edifice: the body of it is probably to be ascribed to the thirteenth century; the  
west

west door resembles those of the time of Edward I. or II. The window immediately over it is supposed to be an improvement made about the reign of Edward IV. when windows were in general enlarged, and divided with four or five mullions. The upper windows were also improved about that time, but were most probably built temp. Edward II. when they were generally divided in the middle by one mullion. The building of the steeple, which is forty yards high, may also be dated with probability in the reign of Edward IV. "The church," says Burton, "is very fair and large, having a very great and strong spire steeple, so spacious within, that two rings of bells may hang therein together, and hath (for the better ornament thereof) a very tunable ring of five bells and a chime: to which a treble bell was added by public subscription, in 1777;" and, in 1779, the great bell was exchanged, which now renders them a complete set. The length of the church, from the chancel to the western door, is twenty-two yards; the width, near the chancel, twenty-six yards and a half; in the body, eighteen and a half. The chancel is six yards by thirteen. The roof is of beautiful old oak; the beams are supported by large pendant Cherubim (like those in Westminster Hall), and ornamented with a number of grotesque faces. In the chancel was a large window, which contained various arms, with figures of saints, warriors, &c. on small panes of painted glass; which, as it darkened the Chancel, was changed for plain glass in 1766, when several fragments of the old window were crowded together at the top.

To the church of *Hinckley* four chapels were annexed, that of *Stoke*, (now a parish church), that of *Dadlington*, and those of *Wyken* and *Hyde*, which have been long since entirely demolished. The ancient chapel of *Stoke* was taken down at the beginning of the fourteenth century, by Sir Robert de Champaine, who, by his marriage with the daughter and heiress of Sir Roger de Stoke, became possessed of a moiety of the manor. By this Sir Roger the present church was founded, in or about the year 1304, and dedicated, in honor of his lady, to St. Margaret: a memorial inscription of which still remains against the wall in the north aisle of the church. From that period Stoke is to be considered as a



separate parish, though the rectory has been constantly annexed to the vicarage of Hinckley. That it is, however, perfectly distinct as to parochial rates, was determined by a cause tried at the Lent assizes for the county in 1627, and confirmed the same by a solemn determination of the Court of King's Bench.

The Chapel of *Dadlington* bears evident marks of antiquity: it has a small wooden turret, with two bells. There was, within memory, a large old iron door on the north side, now stopped up; part of the arch remains, filled up with modern brick-work. Dadlington, though a hamlet depending on the town of Hinckley, is, like Stoke, distinct as to the collection of parochial rates. *Wykin* and *The Hyde*, though they anciently had chapels of their own, are now wholly incorporated with the mother parish. Besides these places of worship on the church establishment, there are in Hinckley five *meeting-houses* for Presbyterians, Independents, Quakers, Baptists, and Methodists, and a chapel for Roman Catholics. The population of Hinckley has been progressively increasing; by the return to parliament, in 1801, the town, with its dependencies, contained 1059 houses, and 5686 inhabitants.

At a short distance from Hinckley, on the road to Lutterworth, is a spring, called "*The Holy Well*," originally dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and once known by the name of "*Our Lady's Well*;" and good mineral waters are also found in this vicinity at Cogg's-Well, Christopher's-Spa, and the Priest-Hills.

APPLEBY is a considerable village in the angle of this hundred, connecting the four counties of Leicester, Derby, Stafford, and Warwick.

#### MARKET BOSWORTH.

This town has acquired some historical and dramatic celebrity, from the memorable battle that was fought near it, and thence was designated by the name of the place, and from the great publicity that Shakespeare's Play of King "*Richard the Third*," has obtained.

obtained. The town itself has, however, little to excite or gratify public curiosity. It consisted of 120 houses, and 791 inhabitants, in the year 1801. Formerly here was a considerable market, but this is now much reduced. A *free-school* was founded here in 1586, by Sir Wolstan Dixie, who was a Lord Mayor of London. The revenues of this formerly supported a master and usher: but, in consequence of some legal litigation, the charitable intentions of the founder have been partly frustrated. In the church, which is a large, but low building, is a fine old monument of the Dixie family.

Bosworth is the birth-place of THOMAS SIMPSON, F. R. S. who was born in 1710, and who, from humble origin and poverty, rose to respectability and fame, by the proper exercise and exertion of his natural faculties. Though precluded from a scholastic education, and only taught to read by his parents, he ultimately became a proficient in mathematical learning. His latent genius was first roused at the age of fourteen, when an eclipse of the sun greatly excited his curiosity, and induced him to make those inquiries and researches, which, at the same time served to stimulate and gratify the mental appetite. From an itinerant pedlar and astrologer he obtained some knowledge of the occult sciences, and from this man he also acquired an insight into the principles of arithmetic. He now determined to "try his fortune in London." His poverty and wishes, however, appear to have been greatly at variance on this point; and, but for the friendly assistance of a shopkeeper of the town, he could not have accomplished his laudable intention. In the year 1732, he visited the metropolis, and obtained employ and subsistence in weaving at Spitalfields, and in giving some instructions to others in the mathematics, &c. So rapid was the progress of this self-taught scholar, in his favourite sciences, that, in the year 1737, he published his excellent Treatise on Fluxions. This soon established his fame, and tempted him to prepare and publish another work, in 1740, on Annuities and Chances, which involved him in a dispute with Demoivre. In 1743, he was appointed Professor of Mathematics to the Military School at Woolwich. He was elected



a Fellow of the Royal Society, and a Member of the Academy of Sciences at Paris. He died in 1761, and his widow was provided with an annuity from the crown. She died in 1782, aged 102. Besides the works already named, he wrote the Elements of Geometry and Algebra, and some papers in the Philosophical Transactions. His remains were interred in Sutton-Cheynal church-yard; but no appropriate memorial has there been raised to his memory. This, however, we do not so much regret, when we reflect on the elegantly expressed and truly appropriate lines of Shée: who, speaking of Sir Joshua Reynolds, says—

“ Genius, like Egypt's monarchs, timely wise,  
Constructs its own memorial ere it dies;  
Leaves its best image in its works enshrin'd,  
And makes a mausoleum of mankind.”

Contiguous to the town of Bosworth is BOSWORTH-HALL, the seat of Mrs. Porlim, sister to the late *Sir Wolstan Dixie, Bart.* who succeeded his father in this estate, &c. in 1766. The Baronetage was conferred on Sir Wolstan, July 14, 1660, for his great exertions in the royal cause during the civil wars.

The BATTLE of BOSWORTH FIELD is a most memorable event in English history, and has been rendered more particularly popular by the much admired and often repeated drama of our immortal Shakespeare, under the title of “King Richard the Third.” The scene of this desperate conflict was a large open plain, or field, about three miles to the S. E. of the town of Bosworth. The opposing and contending houses of York and Lancaster had created a continued succession of wars, hostilities, and personal animosities in the nation, from the beginning of the reign of Henry the Sixth to the termination of that of Richard the Third. At this eventful crisis, August 1485, a battle more desperate and sanguinary was fought than any of the former; and the issue of it tended to unite the two families, and gave tranquillity to the nation. It may not be irrelevant to narrate a few particulars respecting this national event. Richard the Third supported the British crown about

two years, during which short government, he exercised (according to the testimony of most historians), a cruel, arbitrary, and intolerant dominion over his subjects. This naturally excited something more than discontent; and Henry, Earl of Richmond, who had some claims to the English sceptre, was invited to head the Lancastrian party. This he readily agreed to; and bringing from Harfleur (where he had retreated from the persecutions of Richard), about 2000 men, he landed at Milford-Haven, in Wales, and proceeding through the central part of the principality, soon increased his numbers. When he arrived at Shrewsbury, his army became very formidable, not merely in number, but from the rank and influence of many persons who joined his standard. Richard, who had heard of Richmond's landing and progress, exerted all his influence to assemble an army, and marched to Nottingham. The Usurping Tyrant was exposed at once to the just indignation of his open enemies, and to the infidelity of his pretended friends. This must have greatly embarrassed him; and it is evident that suspicion was generally, if not always, preying on his vitals. Thus circumstanced, he laboured under palpable disadvantages; but such disadvantages must ever attend the career of the cruel and crafty tyrant, in his intercourse with society. With the exception of the Duke of Norfolk, scarcely any nobleman was attached to his cause; and those who feigned the most loyalty, appear only to have waited for an opportunity to desert and betray him. But the persons of whom he entertained the greatest suspicions were Lord Stanley, and his brother, Sir William; whose connections with the family of Richmond, notwithstanding their professions of attachment to his person, were never entirely forgotten, or overlooked by him. When he employed Lord Stanley to levy forces, he still retained his eldest son, Lord Strange, as a pledge for his fidelity. The two rivals at last approached each other, and rallied their respective armies in a spacious plain, situated between the towns of Bosworth and Hinckley. Henry appears to have headed about 6000 men; and Richard an army of double that number. Stanley had accumulated, and commanded about 7000 men, whom he posted at Atherstone,



not far from the rival camps, but so situated, that he could readily join that party which proved to be the most successful in the conflict. This disposition was perceived and suspected by Richard; but, confident in the superiority of his numbers, he forbore to intimate his doubts, or demand obedience from Stanley. Fully expecting to secure a victory, and knowing that he could then exercise unrestrained power over those he suspected or feared, he desperately rushed on to battle. Richmond, more wary and prudent, calculated on contingencies, and sought every advantage of time, place, and mode of fighting. The van of his army, consisting of archers, was commanded by the Earl of Oxford; Sir Gilbert Talbot led the right wing: Sir John Savage the left; the Earl himself, accompanied by his uncle, the Earl of Pembroke, preceded and directed the centre\*. Richard also commanded his main body, and entrusted his van to the Duke of Norfolk. Thus situated, an awful anxiety and suspense pervaded both armies, whilst that of Stanley was kept in ambiguous uncertainty. Though this General had decided, his men were not apprised of his intention. This policy of Stanley determined the issue of the contest; for, soon after the battle commenced, he proclaimed his resolution, and rushed forward in aid of Richmond. This measure produced its intended effect on the two armies; for it inspired that of Henry with confidence and courage,

\* In the representation of historical events in the drama, costume, reading, scenery, and all circumstances, should conspire to illustrate facts, and also be in strict consistency with truth. Shakespeare generally adheres to these, and the managers and first class of performers in the London theatres should carefully attend to them. Mr. Kemble, in playing the character of Richard, addresses the following passage to *one part* of the stage, and consequently to one part of the army: whereas Mr. Cooke, with more nice discrimination, appeals to the archers, and cavalry, as *two distinct* bodies, and occupying different posts in the army. These punctilious readings are important, when thus calculated to display ancient manners, customs, &c. Richard, informed of the commencement of the battle, exclaims—

“ Draw, archers, draw your arrows to the head—  
Spur your proud horses hard, and ride in blood.”

rage, and at the same time terror-struck and dismayed their adversaries. "The intrepid tyrant, sensible of his desperate situation, cast his eye around the field, and descrying his rival at no great distance, he drove against him with fury, in hopes that either Henry's death or his own would decide the victory between them. He killed, with his own hands, Sir William Brandon, standard-bearer to the Earl; he dismounted Sir John Cheyney: he was now within reach of Richmond himself, who declined not the combat; when Sir William Stanley, breaking in with his troops, surrounded Richard, who, fighting bravely to the last moment, was overwhelmed by numbers, and perished by a fate too mild and honorable for his multiplied and detestable enormities. His men every where sought for safety by flight. There fell in this battle about four thousand of the vanquished, and among them the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Ferrars of Chartley, Sir Richard Radcliffe, Sir Robert Piercy, and Sir Robert Brackenbury. The loss was inconsiderable on the the side of the victors. Sir William Catesby, a great instrument of Richard's crimes, was taken, and soon after beheaded with some others at Leicester. The body of Richard was found in the field, covered with dead enemies, and all besmeared with blood: it was thrown carelessly across a horse; was carried to Leicester, amidst the shouts of the insulting spectators, and was interred in the Gray-friars church of that place \*."

"While we survey this awful field," says Hutton, "the first in consequence in the whole island, that of the battle of Hastings, in Sussex alone excepted, we may consider it as English classic ground. Here contemplation brings in review important deeds, and their more important effects."

How transcendantly beautiful and energetic are those passages of Shakespeare, which describe and display the varied characters, sentiments, and emotions, of the principal personages who performed in this national tragedy. That scene, where Richard is represented in his tent, and inly ruminating on the morning's danger, is one of those master-pieces of dramatic and philosophic writing,

\* Hume's History of England, Vol. IV.



writing, which no author has ever excelled, and which, therefore, finds its way to every head and heart. In the night previous to the fatal battle, our immortal bard describes Richard in his tent, when harassed by a guilty conscience, and incapable of sleeping, he thus expresses his thoughts:—

“How awful is this gloom!—and hark, from camp to camp,  
The hum of either army stilly sounds;  
That the fixt centinels almost receive  
The secret whispers of each other's watch.  
Steed threatens steed, in high and boastful neighings,  
Piercing the night's dull ear.—Hark, from the tents,  
The armourers accomplishing the knights,  
With clink of hammers closing rivets up,  
Give dreadful note of preparation: while some,  
Like sacrifices, by the fires of watch,  
With patience sit, and inly ruminate  
The morning's danger.”———

About four miles to the west of Hinckley, is **LINDLEY-HALL**, the seat of the Rev. *Samuel Bracebridge Heming*. This place is rendered memorable from having been the residence of John Hardwick, who led the Earl of Richmond to the field of battle. It was afterwards possessed by

**WILLIAM BURTON**, who published the *History of Leicestershire*, and who was born here on August 4th, 1575. He obtained the first rudiments of education at the grammar-school of Sutton Coldfield; was admitted a commoner at Brazen-nose College, Oxford, in 1591; entered the Inner Temple in 1593; and was next a barrister and reporter in the Court of Common Pleas. According to Wood, “his natural genius leading him to the studies of heraldry, genealogies, and antiquities, he became excellent in those obscure and intricate matters; and look upon him as a gentleman, was accounted by all that knew him to be the best of his time for those studies, as may appear by his description of  
Leicester-

Leicestershire\*." This work was first published in one volume folio, 1622. At the time he was preparing it, he cultivated an acquaintance with Sir Robert Cotton, Sir William Dugdale, and Michael Drayton, all of whom had studied the topography and antiquities of the kingdom; and all, by their collections and works, have perpetuated and preserved many useful and curious documents and facts. "The reputation of Burton's work," as Mr. Gough justly observes, "arises from its being written early, and preceded only by Lambard's Kent, 1576; Carew's Cornwall, 1602; and Norden's Surveys; and it is in comparison only of these, and not of Dugdale's more copious work, that we are to understand the praises so freely bestowed on it, and because nobody has treated the subject more remotely and accurately; for Dugdale, says Burton, as well as Lambard and Carew, performed briefly. The typographical errors in his volume, especially in the Latin, are so numerous, and the style, according to the manner of that time, so loose, that the meaning is often doubtful. The description is in alphabetical order, and consists chiefly of pedigrees and moot-cases."

ROBERT BURTON, younger brother of the above, was born at Lindley, in 1576; and falling in with the prevalent whim of the times, called himself Democritus Junior. Under this signature he published a work, with the quaint title of "The Anatomy of Melancholy," which, by the injudicious praises of Dr. Johnson and Dr. Ferriar, has obtained considerable celebrity. Granger calls it an agreeable "cento;" but acknowledges, that had the author employed more of his talents in original composition than in merely copying the unconnected sentiments, &c. of other writers, he would probably have made his book much more valuable than it is. His work appears to have been a local satire on the pedantry of the times; for it was then customary for all writers and speakers to embellish, or rather diversify, their language by quotations from various authors. Sir Edward Coke, in a speech concerning the gunpowder plot, contrives to introduce  
some

\* *Athenæ Oxonienses*, Vol. II. p. 75.



some passages from the Psalmist, Ovid, &c. One of Burton's biographers describes him in the following terms, by stating, that he was "an exact mathematician, a curious calculator of nati- vities, a thorough-paced philologist, and an intelligent surveyor of lands; a devourer of authors, a melancholy, yet humorous man, merry, *facete*, and, although advanced in years, a juvenile companion; readily and dexterously interlarding his discourses with verses and sentences from classical authors." Such is the account of the *man*, by one who appears to be rather partial: the following critique on his book is more discriminating, and, in my own estimation, is perfectly just. "I have attempted several times to read it, but was perpetually disgusted with crude fancies, verbose pedantry, dull common place, and eternal quo- tation, spun out in unceasing repetition; it has seldom happened that I was more fatigued, and so anxious to close a book; and I impute the sentence of approbation pronounced on it by Dr. Johnson, to Burton's chiming in with some favorite opinion, or to his perusing the work at a moment unfavorable to critical sagacity, similar to that in which he condemned Dr. Watts, and exalted the muse of Blackmore\*." The work of Dr. Ferriar, that tended to excite some enquiry after the Anatomy of Melancholy, and gave it a temporary notoriety, was entitled, "*Illustrations of Sterne*." In this work the Doctor endeavours to prove, that our witty and highly satirical Divine was indebted to Burton for much of his eccentric style, &c. and therefore accuses him of plagiarism. On comparing the writings of the two, there will be found but very few similitudes; for whilst Sterne is constantly displaying wit, satire, novelty, and fine writing, Burton's work is merely a heterogeneous common-place-book, more distinguished for its dulness than its vivacity or brilliancy. Besides, the writings of Sterne will be long read and admired, after those of Burton and Ferriar are forgotten, or disregarded. And such will ever be the happy pre-eminence of that writer who draws his literary pictures

\* Lounger's Common-place-book, Vol. I. p. 189. Edit. 1805.

pictures from the fascinating and immutable face of Nature; while the copyist, and dull critic, will become more and more obscured by shadow, as Time proceeds in his gradual career.

GOPSAL-HALL, or *Goppeshull*, the seat of the Baroness Howe, is about three miles north-west of Bosworth. This elegant mansion, according to Marshall, was built, and the grounds laid out, at the expense of 100,000*l*. "by the late Mr. Jennens, famous for his friendship to Handel and the Pretender." Charles Jennens, Esq. was descended from an opulent family of Birmingham, who had acquired a large fortune in business. Having purchased this estate, he built a spacious mansion, and adapted the whole for the reception of a great establishment. He died without issue in 1773, and left Gopsal to his nephew, Penn Asheton Curzon, Esq. who married a niece of Mr. Jennens. This gentleman made a considerable collection of pictures\*, and adorned the grounds with ornamented temples, &c. In one of these is a *statue*, by Roubiliac, of Religion, holding in one hand the book of life, and in the other a cross. The temple is consecrated to the memory of *Edward Holdsworth*, who died at Coleshill, in Warwickshire, in 1746. He was author of "*Muscipula*," and "*Remarks and Dissertations on Virgil*." On a cenotaph in the temple is a figure of Genius, represented in a pensive attitude; Virgil's tomb, and his bust, with various antique fragments; and a Latin inscription, complimentary to the talents of Holdsworth.

Among numerous pictures in the house are the following:—  
*A Landscape*, by Teniers; *Two Landscapes*, with figures, by Poelenburg: a whole length *Portrait* of HANDEL, by Hudson;  
*two*

\* These were first displayed in his house in Great Ormond Street, London; and a list of them was published in "*The English Connoisseur*," 2 vols. 12mo. 1766. By this list the collection appears to have been not only very numerous, but to have consisted of many pictures by the most eminent artists; though there were many of very inferior note.



*two Views in Venice*, by Canaletti: *St. Peter delivered from Prison*, the scene by De Neef, and figures by D. Teniers; a companion to this is, a *View of the Interior of the Jesuit's Church at Antwerp*, with the ceremony of the priest bearing the host, by the same artists; *Infant Jesus Sleeping*, by Murillio; *Tobias curing his Father*, by Rembrandt; *two Landscapes*, by Teniers; two pictures, representing *a calm* and *a storm* at sea, by Vanderweld; *two Heads* of a man and woman, by Denner; *Landscape and Cattle*, by Cuyp; *a Crucifixion*, by Vandyck; *David and Solomon*, by Rubens; and *Hercules and Anteus*, by the same painter; *View of Scheveling*, storm coming on, by Ruysdael; a *Chalk Kiln*, by the same artist; *two Landscapes*, by Claude; *the Death of Richard the Third*, by Hayman. This curious picture displays that incident in the battle when Richard had just lost his horse; and as Hayman was intimate with Garrick, it is presumed that he drew the character and expression of Richard from that actor's personification of him. Mr. Boulton, of Loughborough, issued proposals, some time back, for publishing a large print from this picture. The library contains a considerable collection of books; and in the house are several portraits of the Stuart family.

TOOLEY PARK, once a great ornament to the hundred of Sparkenhoe, is now chiefly disparked, and appropriated to the purpose of farming. It formerly belonged to the honor of Leicester, and was attached to the castle of Earl's Shilton, when the Earls of Leicester resided there. It was possessed, for several generations, by the Boothby family.

EARL'S SHILTON was formerly distinguished by its Norman castle; but this building is entirely destroyed, and its site only denoted by a mount, and a place called the Castle Yard, or Hall Yard. The court-leet belonging to this manor, says Burton, "is of large extent, to which the revenue of twenty-five towns belongs. This manor is now accounted part of the duchy of

of Lancaster, and has been so ever since Simon de Montford, Earl of Leicester, was slain at the battle of Evesham; upon which all his lands were given, by Henry the Third, to Edmund Crouckback, Earl of Lancaster, his second son." This place is a chapelry to Kirkby Malory, in which village is

KIRKBY HALL, the pleasant seat of Lord Viscount Wentworth. This house is built of brick, and its principal front stuccoed. In the contiguous church are several monuments to different persons of the Noel family.

At KIRBY MUXLOE, near Leicester, a chapelry to Glenfield, are the ruins of an old mansion, which was formerly moated round, and had towers at the angles. This house is traditionally said to have been built by Lord Hastings, as a place of refuge for Jane Shore. The Hastings family certainly possessed this estate and lordship for many generations.

RATBY, about four miles north-west from Leicester, is a village and lordship belonging to the Earl of Stamford. Within this parish is a large *entrenchment*, which is formed in the shape of a parallelogram. Throsby says, that the embankment includes an area of "nine acres and thirty-one poles; the slope is thirty-nine feet and a half." From its lofty apex is obtained an extensive view of the circumjacent country. Our antiquaries have not described any Roman road in this direction; but it is extremely probable that the *Via Divana*, in communicating between *Ratae* and *Deva Colonia*, passed this encampment. Near it is a spring called Holywell; and the place is usually called the Springs. Contiguous is an estate called *Steward's Hay*, which formerly belonged to the Sacheverell family, to the memory of one of whom there is a monument in the church. He gave a considerable sum of money to purchase lands for the benefit of the poor of Ratby. It is said, that John of Gaunt also gave other lands here for the same purpose. Steward's Hay is now the hunting-seat of Lord Stamford, who, as Baron *Groby*, is owner also of *Groby Castle*.



**BRAUNSTON HALL**, the seat of Clement Winstanley, Esq. is situated in the northern angle of this hundred, at the distance of about two miles from Leicester. The house was built by the present proprietor about the year 1775, and is a neat plain edifice, situated in a part of the county that is finely wooded. This estate was purchased from the Hastings family early in the seventeenth century, by James Winstanley, Esq. an ancestor of the present proprietor.

**ENDERBY HALL**, the seat of Charles Loraine Smith, Esq. stands about four miles south-west of Leicester, near the village of Enderby. The scenery here partakes of the wild romantic features of the forest; presenting a rocky hill, with some fine woods. In the contiguous church is a neat monument, to the memory of Richard Smith, Esq. who died in 1762, and who left 500*l.* to propagate the gospel in foreign countries; 500*l.* to the marine society; the interest of 500*l.* to the vicars of Enderby; and 200*l.* to endow a school at the same place. Other branches of the same family are interred here. At the west end of the church is an handsome arch, decorated with the heads of men, animals, &c. and supported by fluted columns, with foliated capitals.

This manor belonged to Sir Robert Neville, in the time of Edward the first; and was purchased by the Smith family soon after the year 1720. Previous to this the Smiths (one of whom came to England with William the Conqueror) were seated first in the county of Durham, and afterwards at Kirkharle, in the county of Northumberland.

**OSBASTON HALL**, the seat of Josias Cockshutt-Twisleton, Esq. is situated about two miles north-east of Market Bosworth. This estate formerly belonged to the Munday family, who obtained some consequence in this county, and from whom it was purchased by the present possessor, who was High Sheriff of Leicestershire in the year 1789, and has since taken the name of Twisleton.

FRAMLAND

**FRAMLAND HUNDRED** occupies the north eastern portion of Leicestershire, and runs, in a narrow neck of land, between the counties of Nottingham and Lincoln; the latter bounding it to the east, and the former to the north. Part of Rutlandshire attaches to the southern side, and the hundred of East Goscote bounds it on the west. A small portion of this hundred is included between the hundreds of Guthlaxton and East Goscote. The natural features of this part of the county are diversified by some bold elevations and fertile vallies. Among the latter, the Vale of Belvoir, which extends along the north western side of this hundred, is noted for its prolific pasturage. Part of the Wolds extends nearly through the centre of it; and the rivers Eye and Devon derive their source from this district. The Grantham Canal crosses it from Nottinghamshire to Lincolnshire. Here is only one market town, Melton Mowbray; but it is adorned with noble seats at Belvoir, Croxton, Godeby, and Stapleford. A turnpike road communicates between Melton and Leicester; also from the former town to Oakham, to Nottingham, and to Grantham.

In 1283 this hundred was granted, by Edward the Second, to Roger Beler, for the fee-farm rent of 100 shillings. In the following year the grant was renewed, with the specification of some annual rents, which were termed *Palfrey-Silver of Beaver*, *Wakyng-Silver*, *Shirefs-toth*, and *Frank-pledge*. In 1346, this hundred was assessed 31l. 0s. 4d. towards knighting Edward of Woodstock. The hundred court now belongs to the Earl of Moira.

The following list of townships, &c. in this hundred, is extracted from Mr. Nichols's History.

*Abkettleby*, a vicarage; including *Holwell*, which has a chapel; and the ancient hamlet of *Holt*.

*Barkston*, a vicarage.

*Belvoir* castle and priory.

*Bottesford*, a rectory; including the hamlets of *Easthorpe* and *Normanton*.

*Braunston*, a rectory.

*Broughton (Nether)*, a rectory.

*Buckminster*, a vicarage; including



- cluding the hamlet of *Sewstern*.  
*Cawdwell*, a chapelry belonging to Rothley; with the hamlet of *Wikeham*.  
*Claxton, Long*, a vicarage.  
*Cold-Overton*, a rectory.  
*Coston*, a rectory.  
*Croxton-Kyriel*, a vicarage.  
*Croxton* abbey.  
*Dalby, Little*, a vicarage.  
*Eastwell*, a rectory.  
*Eaton*, a vicarage.  
*Edmondthorpe*, a rectory.  
*Garthorpe*, a vicarage.  
*Godeby-Marwood*, a rectory.  
*Harby*, a rectory.  
*Hareston*, a rectory.  
*Hose*, a vicarage.  
*Kirkby-Beler*, a curacy.  
*Knipton*, a rectory.  
*Leesthorpe*, a hamlet belonging to Pickwell.  
*Markfield, South*, a chapelry belonging to Tilton.  
*MELTON-MOWBRAY*, a vicarage; including *Burton-Lazars, Freaby, Sysonby*, and *Welby*, in each of which there is a chapel; and *Eye-Kettleby*, where the chapel is in ruins.  
*Muston*, a rectory.  
*Plungar*, a vicarage.  
*Redmile*, a rectory.  
*Saltby*, a vicarage; including the manor of *Bertsanby*, commonly called *Bescaby*.  
*Saxby*, a rectory.  
*Scalford*, a vicarage; including *Goldsmith's Grange*.  
*Somerby*, a vicarage.  
*Sproxton*, a vicarage.  
*Stapleford*, a vicarage.  
*Stathern*, a rectory.  
*Stonesby*, a vicarage.  
*Thorpe-Ernald*, a vicarage; including *Brentingby* chapel.  
*Waltham on the Wolds*, a rectory.  
*Withcote*, a rectory.  
*Wiverby*, a rectory.  
*Wymondham*, a rectory.

### MELTON MOWBRAY,

In ancient writings called *Medeltune*, *Meltone*, and afterwards *Melton-Mowbray*, from its early lords, is a small well built town, situated in a vale, on the banks of the river Eye. It is fifteen miles distant from Leicester, sixteen from Grantham, twenty from Nottingham, and ten from Oakham; and is intersected by the turnpike roads leading to these towns. In the ecclesiastical division, it is included in the deanry of Framland.

“ From

"From Clauson to Melton," says Leland, "a good iii miles by good corne ground. Betwixt Trent ripe and Melton many benes and peson, as yt is comunely thorough al Leyrecestreshir. From Melton to Burton Lazar, a veri fair hospital and collegiate chirch, scant a mile. To Borow hills more than ii miles. This standeth in the very hy way bytwixt Melton and London. To thes Borow hills every yere on Monday after White Soday come people of the contery therabout, and shote, renne, wrastle, daunce, and use like other feats of exercise\*." The parish of Melton is four miles in extent; and, the five hamlets of *Burton Lazars*, *Eye-Kettleby*, *Freeby*, *Sysonby*, and *Welby*, are dependant on the town, and included in the parish, paying levies to the mother church, and having divine service performed at each in turn by the vicar. In the reign of Edward the Confessor, the lordship of Melton, originally of very great extent, was in the possession of Leurie Fitz Leuin; and was the chief of twenty-seven lordships, which, after the conquest, was bestowed on Goisfrid de Wirce: at this remote period it had obtained the peculiar privilege of a market, whence accrued a revenue of twenty shillings per annum. Goisfrid was succeeded in the lordship by Nigell de Albini, whose son, by order of Henry the First, assumed the name of Mowbray, in which family it long continued. In the beginning of the seventeenth century we find it possessed by Robert Hudson, Esq. citizen of London, and a great benefactor to his native town of Melton. From the Hudsons, John Coke, Esq. purchased the manor and honour; which descended in 1750, by marriage, to Matthew Lamb, Esq. an eminent conveyancer of Lincoln's Inn, who was created a Baronet in 1755. In an act passed in 1760, for dividing and inclosing the several open and common fields and common pastures in Melton Mowbray, containing together about 2000 acres, Sir Matthew Lamb is described as lord of the honour and manor, and proprietor of a considerable part of the lands and grounds

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therein.

\* Itin. Vol. V. p. 93.



therein. Sir Matthew died in 1768, and was succeeded by his son, Sir Peniston, who was created Baron Melbourne in 1770, and Viscount in 1780.

Near this town a severe battle took place, Feb. 25, 1644-5, between Sir Marmaduke Langdale, who commanded the royalists, and a party of the parliamentary troops, under the command of Colonel Rossiter.

About the middle of the seventeenth century, several tradesmen's tokens were issued at this town; whence Mr. Nichols infers, that the place was then distinguished for "considerable traffic." Six of the tokens are engraved in Vol. I. of the History of Leicestershire. Connected with this town are three bridges, over the rivers Eye and Scafford. These are repaired, and the streets are preserved in good condition, with lamps, &c. from the rents arising out of the town estates. Here is a weekly market on Thursdays; and at every alternate market is generally a large shew of cattle. In this town are three annual fairs, and also a statute fair for servants. It appears by the parish register, that in the year 1653, and some following years, the publication of banns was announced at the market cross, and that two justices of the peace performed the marriage ceremony. In this town is a *manor oven*, fourteen feet in diameter, the possessor of which endeavoured to compel all the inhabitants to bake their bread in it, in the time of Sir Matthew Lamb; but the townspeople refused to comply, and established another oven of larger dimensions.

The *church* is a large, handsome structure; and consists of a nave, ailes, transepts, chancel, tower in the centre, and an handsome *porch* at the west end. The latter is a peculiar feature in the building, and has an elegant door way, with ogee arch; also two niches on each side, and two ornamented windows. Above this porch is the large western window, consisting of five lights, with four lofty mullions, and some decorated tracery. Over the ailes is a continued, and almost connected, series of clerestory windows, of three lights each. The whole church

is

is crowned with an embattled parapet; and at each angle is a crocketed pinnacle. The tower consists of two stories above the church, of good proportion, and handsome architecture. In the lower tier are three lancet-shaped windows in each face, with long slender columns, having central bands, and plain circular capitals. In these windows the zigzag ornament prevails; and at the angles of the tower (in this tier) are three quarter columns. The upper tier is of a different, and later style of architecture; and the summit is adorned with eight purfled pinnacles, and a richly perforated and embattled ballustrade. At the north-east angle is a circular stair-case, projecting beyond the square of the tower. Within, the building presents a neat, and nearly uniform appearance; and the whole has been carefully and laudably preserved by the present worthy vicar, the Rev. Dr. Ford, who has, in this sacred building, set a most exemplary pattern to the neighbouring clergy. The nave is divided from the aisles by six high pointed arches on each side, springing from four clustered columns; and in the transepts are aisles, arches, with columns, &c. The transepts measure 117 feet in length, by 38 feet in breadth; from the western door to the chancel is 113 feet; the chancel is 51 feet long, by 21 feet in width; and the nave is 56 feet wide. Leland calls it "a faire paroche church, sumtime an hospital and cell to Lewis in Sussex." On the north side of the chancel is an embattled vestry, with the date of 1532 over its eastern window. Here are some fragments, and figures of painted glass. Among the monumental inscriptions is one to "ROBERT HUDSON, Esq. citizen of London, and of St. Mary Bothaw; was born in this towu, 1570; founded the *hospital* adjoining to the church, 1640; and died 1641." Several others of the Hudson family were interred here. In the south aisle, commonly called *Digby's Aile*, is an effigy of a cross-legged knight, in a round helmet of mail, with a band, his shield on his left arm, bearing a lion rampant. Over him, in modern characters, "*This is the LORD HAMON BELER,*



*brother to the Lord Mowbray.*" The town contains 348 houses, and 1766 inhabitants.

The poor of this town are benefited by several charitable benefactions; and among these are some public schools. As early as the reign of Henry the Third, we find these taken under the immediate patronage of that monarch. A large building was erected in 1795, to be appropriated to a free-school for girls.

This town has given birth to the following eminent public characters. JOHN DE KIRKBY, who was canon of Wells and York, dean of Winburn, archdeacon of Coventry, and in 1272 he was made keeper of the great seal. In 1283 he was constituted lord high treasurer of England. He was presented to the bishopric of Ely in 1286, and died in 1290, when he was interred before the altar of his own cathedral. To this bishop the subsequent prelates of Ely have been indebted for their London residence; as he bequeathed, for their use, "his manor house, a capital messuage, with some cottages in the village of Holbourn, in the suburbs of London\*."

WILLIAM DE MELTON, provost of Beverley, and afterwards archbishop of York, was a person of distinction in the early part of the fourteenth century. He was appointed, by Edward the Second, lord high treasurer of England in 1325: and Edward the Third made him lord chancellor in 1334. He died at Cawood in 1340, and was interred near the western end of his cathedral church, where his coffin, &c. were discovered on new paving that edifice†.

JOHN HENLEY, better known by the popular appellation of *Orator Henley*, was born here, August 3, 1692. Few public characters ever excited more notoriety than the one now under consideration; for, by a prolific pen and flippancy tongue, he wrote

\* Nichols, Vol. I. p. 259, from Godwin de Præsulibus, p. 258. Ed. Richardson.

† See Drake's Antiquities of York.

wrote and descanted on almost every popular subject of the day. Public men, and public measures, were treated with a boldness and freedom of language, that provoked astonishment and curiosity. It will be impossible to delineate the varied characteristics and proceedings of this man, in the limited space which I am necessarily confined to in this work; but in detailing the following particulars, I hope to experience the approbation of the reader: For whenever it becomes necessary to discuss and decide on the merits of public characters, it should be done with freedom and discrimination. John Henley has furnished us with ample data for writing a copious memoir and character of him, in his own "*Oratory Transactions*." Whence it appears, that ambition was his ruling passion; and this impelled him, in all his scholastic proceedings, to aim at pre-eminence. He was generally head boy, or captain, in each school, and acquired a considerable knowledge of languages, &c. When at College, he still persevered in his studies; and there displayed some traits of that spirit which afterwards excited so much popularity. "He here began to be uneasy," says Mr. Nichols: "he was impatient that systems of all sorts were put into his hands; and that he incurred the danger of losing his interest, and the scandal of heterodoxy, if (as his genius led him) he freely disputed all propositions, &c. He was always impatient under those fetters of the free-born mind; and privately determined, some time or other, to enter his protest against any person's being bred like a slave, who is born an Englishman. Here he also observed, that the space of four years was employed on the forming of such qualifications as might be mastered, to more perfection, in a fourth part of the time. He likewise found it was a great defect that, though he was brought up for a clergyman, he was not instructed to preach, or pray, or read prayers, or speak, or catechise, or confer, or resolve a case of conscience, or understand the scriptures, or form any natural and clear idea of the Christian religion. He determined, therefore, some time to lay a foundation for removing such a complaint, that men might be



educated for their proper business, and not be under the greatest disadvantages in that station where they ought be most excellent \*." The man of bold and independent mind, who publicly arraigns established prejudices, old customs, and great abuses, will inevitably excite numerous enemies; but he is also likely to produce some good. This is manifested in the example before us; for when Henley gave full scope to his powers, he often repressed the obtrusions of folly, and checked the career of vice; though in doing this, he generally committed such absurdities as tended to counteract the efficacy of his satire. After leaving the University, where he was admired for his proficiency, but hated for his licentiousness, he officiated for some time as vicar of the church, and master of the grammar-school of Melton. During his stay here he published some sermons, and other works; but deserting his native town, he sought the metropolis, as a theatre more adapted for the exercise and exertion of his talents. Here he soon obtained popularity, by the character of his discourses, and the powerful action with which he delivered them. In a contest for the lectureship of St. John's chapel, near Bedford Row, it is said that the declamatory and theatrical style (as commonly called) of his delivery, excited the disapproval of the congregation, and that another person was elected. Provoked at this, he rushed into the vestry-room, and exclaimed, "Blockheads! are *you* qualified to judge of the degree of action necessary for a preacher of God's word?—Were you able to read, or had sufficient sense, ye sorry knaves, to understand the most renowned orator of antiquity, he would tell you that the great, almost the only requisite for a public speaker, was action, action, action.—But I despise, and defy you; *provoco ad populum*; the people shall decide between us." This circumstance probably gave origin to his public lectures; for he soon afterwards advertised that he should 'hold forth' publicly twice a week. For this purpose he hired a large room in Newport Market, which he called *The Oratory*.

\* History of Leicestershire, Vol. I. p. 259, from Oratory Transactions, p. 1.

*Oratory.* Here he delivered, on Sundays, a theological discourse in the morning, and a lecture in the evening. Every Wednesday he also gave lectures on the sciences, and on various miscellaneous subjects. He next took a room near Lincoln's Inn Fields, contiguous to the great Catholic chapel, and called it, "*The Little Catholic Chapel.*" By quaint and occasionally witty advertisements and handbills, he announced his lectures; and generally attracted a numerous audience. The prices of admission were sixpence and one shilling each person. A syllabus of his lectures was also published, containing a long list of the various topics on which he proposed to descant during a course. The distinguishing characteristics of Henley in his lectures were, "to play round the surface of a subject, without puzzling his hearers by deep argument, solid learning, or abstruse speculation; to excite curiosity by singularity and extravagance; to provoke mirth sometimes by broad humour, and occasionally by barefaced impudence; to treat public men and public measures with sarcasm, personality, satire, and buffoonery\*" When Lord Chesterfield was secretary of state, Henley was arrested, and brought before the privy council; but, careless and unabashed, he there indulged in his usual freedom of language, and was at length dismissed with a reprimand. Among other public characters whom he attacked, was Alexander Pope, who retaliated in the following terms, in that severely satirical poem of his called the '*Dunciad.*'

—"Imbrown'd with native bronze, see Henley stands  
Tuning his voice, and balancing his hands,  
How fluent nonsense trickles from his tongue!  
How sweet the periods neither said nor sung;  
O great restorer of the good old stage,  
Preacher at once, and zany of thy age!  
O worthy thou of Egypt's wise abodes;  
A decent priest where monkeys were the gods!"—

Henley

\* *Lounger's Common Place Book*, Vol. II. 3d Edit.



Henley died October 24, 1756; and his collection of MS. lectures, common place books, sermons, &c. amounting to about 200 volumes, was sold by public auction, June 12—15, 1759\*.

At BURTON-LAZARS, about two miles to the north-west of Melton, was an *hospital*, founded "by a general collection throughout England; but chiefly by the assistance of Roger de Mowbray, who lived in the reign of King Stephen, 1135-1154†." This hospital was the principal, or chief of the lazar houses in England; and its revenues supported a master, and eight sound, as well as several poor leprous brethren, who professed the order of St. Augustine. The hospital was situated on a hill, at a short distance from the hamlet: and in adopting this situation for the leprous fraternity, the founders were probably influenced by the peculiar character of a bath, or spring, the waters of which were formerly in high reputation for that disorder called leprosy. A bathing room, and drinking room, were built here about the year 1760, and the place frequented by many persons afflicted with scrofulous and scorbutic complaints. Some of these are said to have derived very considerable benefit from the use of the waters. These "are fœtid and saline, without any mineral taste; but are esteemed pure in the highest degree, and create an appetite. They brace and invigorate weak constitutions, and render all less liable to colds and the inclemencies of weather‡."

The chapel at Burton consists of a nave and two aisles; and at the west end are two bells, suspended beneath arches.

STAPLEFORD,

\* See a copious list of his publications, and many further particulars respecting him, in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. I. p. 260, &c.

† History of Leicestershire, Vol. I. p. 272.

‡ Ibid. p. 269. Throsby, in his "Leicestershire Views," p. 178, &c. has given a list of persons who obtained cures from bathing in, and drinking the waters. Most of the disorders appear to have been scorbutic.

STAPLEFORD, a large parish bordering on Rutlandshire, comprehends an area of land, measuring about two miles and a half from east to west, and two miles from north to south. Here is STAPLEFORD-HALL, a seat of the *Earl of Harborough*. The house is seated on rising ground, in an extensive park, at the distance of four miles from Melton Mowbray. This building consists of three distinct parts, erected at different periods. The most ancient was raised by Thomas Sherard, Esq. in 1500, as appears by a date on the eastern front. Another inscription states, that "*William Lord Sherard, Baron of Letrym, repaired this building, An. Do. 1631.*" This part of the house displays a curious specimen of the English domestic architecture of the age. It has square headed windows with mullions, and is ornamented with fifteen statues in niches, besides several coats of arms, and pieces of sculpture, in basso relievo. The statues are intended to represent different persons, ancestors or founders of the family; and six of them are inscribed with the following names. "*Schirard, Lord of Cheltenham; King William the Conqueror; Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester; Bertram, Lord Verdon; Walter de Lacy, Baron of Trim, and Earl of Ulster; James de Brabazon, the great warrior.*"

The church, situated near the mansion, is a modern building, and was erected in the year 1783. Within it are some fine monuments to different branches of the family. Among these is one by Rysbrack, raised to the memory of the first Earl of Harborough; an effigy of whom is represented in Roman costume, with one arm reclining on a cushion, and the other arm directed towards the figure of his lady, who is displayed with a naked infant seated on her knee. On the pedestal is the following inscription.

"TO THE MEMORY OF BENNET, FIRST EARL OF HAR-  
BOROUGH, ONLY SURVIVING SON AND HEIR OF BEN-  
NET, LORD SHERARD OF STAPLEFORD; BARON OF  
LETRIM, IN THE KINGDOM OF IRELAND, BY ELIZA-  
BETH,



BETH, DAUGHTER AND COHEIR OF SIR HENRY CALVERLY, OF ARCHOLME, IN THE BISHOPRICK OF DURHAM, KNIGHT, BY WHOM HE HAD ISSUE ONE SON, WHO DIED AN INFANT. HE WAS MANY YEARS, AND TO THE TIME OF HIS DEATH, LORD LIEUTENANT, AND CUSTOS ROTULORUM OF THE COUNTY OF RUTLAND, LORD WARDEN AND JUSTICE IN EYRE NORTH OF TRENT. HE DIED THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1732, AGED 55."

In the middle of the nave is a *brass plate*, with engraved outlines of the figures of *Geoffrey* and *Joan Sherard*, dated 1490. He is represented in armour, his head resting on a helmet, and his feet on a greyhound, with large sword and spurs. On the same plate are figures of seven boys and seven girls, with four shields of arms.

Here is an elegant large marble monument, erected to the memory of William Lord Sherard; a statue of whom, in armour, with another of his lady, are laid on a table tomb, beneath an arch. On either side of the tomb, three sons in armour, and a daughter, each kneeling on a cushion; another son on a cushion, in the middle of the tomb. He died the 1st of April, 1640.

BOTTESFORD, in ancient deeds written *Botesford*, *Bottelesford*, *Boclesford*, *Bokillisforde*, &c. and in modern pronunciation Botsworth, is situated on the river Devon, in the vale of Belvoir, and adjoins to the two counties of Nottingham and Lincoln. The turnpike road from Grantham to Nottingham leads through it. In the ecclesiastical division of Leicestershire, Bottesford, with its two hamlets of Easthorpe and Normanton, is within the deanry of Framland.

This lordship (with fourteen others in the county) was given, by the Conqueror, to Robert de Todenei, a noble Norman, who accompanied the monarch into England as a standard-bearer; by whom it was held at the time of the Domesday survey, and  
whose

whose posterity enjoyed it till, by an heir general, it came, by marriage, to the noble family of Rcs; in which, and in that of Manners, it has continued (except a few years in the contest between the houses of York and Lancaster) to the present day.

The church of Bottesford is a large handsome structure, consisting of a nave, a spacious chancel, two ailes, south porch, and north and south transept. At the west end is a tower, with a lofty ornamented spire. This church having been the burial place of the Manners family since the dissolution, is ornamented with several memorials and monuments, raised at different periods, and to different persons. Some of the monuments are ancient, and from their mutilated condition are not, perhaps, now, to be identified. THOMAS MANNERS, the *first Earl of Rutland*, was buried at Bottesford in 1543. Previous to this period it appears that the family was buried at the priory church of Belvoir; and after the dissolution, the principal tombs, effigies, &c. were removed from that church to this of Bottesford. Here are now some fine and costly monuments; among which the following claim attention, either for their individual splendour, or on account of the persons whose names and deeds they serve to record.

Near the middle of the nave is an *alabaster monument*, with effigies of the *first* EARL OF RUTLAND and his COUNTESS. The former is represented in the appropriate robes of the garter, with his head resting on a helmet, and his feet against an unicorn. The lady is dressed in the uncouth, and formal costume of the age. On the north side of the tomb are figures of their six daughters, and on the south side those of their five sons and one daughter. The young men are represented in surcoats and mail. At the west end of the tomb is a statue of a sixth son in armour; and at the east end are the figures of two other daughters.

Near this monument is another of alabaster, with the following inscription.

“Heare lieth HENRY MANERS, EARLE OF RUTLAND,  
and



and *Margaret* his wief, daughter to Radulphe, earle of Westmerland, which Earle of Rutland died, beig lord presidet of her Majestie's counsaile in the Northe, the sevententhe daye of September, 1563."

A figure of the Earl represents him in plated armour, with a collar and George hanging down almost to his waistband, a garter round his knee, coronet, rings on the fore and third fingers of both hands, dagger at his right side, sword in his left hand, a book in his right, his flowered helmet and crest under his head, an unicorn at his feet. By him lies his lady in robes, with her head reclined on a scroll, her hair reticulated with jewels, a coronet and ruff, her hands joined with a book, and a lion at her feet. Their eldest son Edward in armour, their second son John, rector of Helmesly, in a gown, with long pendant sleeves; and their daughter Elizabeth, all kneel on the tomb: the eldest son and daughter at the head of their parents, and the other son at their feet. Over the figures is a canopy on heavy-wrought pillars.

On the south side of the chancel is a *large monument*, with the figures of EDWARD, the THIRD EARL OF RUTLAND; and his lady. He is in robes, ruff, and armour, bareheaded, garter on his knee, long cordon, a bull at his feet: she in ermine robes, high toupee, ruff, embroidered sleeves, puckered wristbands; with one daughter kneeling at her feet, in similar sleeves, ruff, and drest hair. The following inscription, specifying his titles, &c. is on two tablets. "The right honorable and noble Lord Edward Earle of Rutlande, Lord Rosse of Hamelac, Trusbote, and Belvoyre, lieth here buried. In the yeare 1569 he was sent into the north parts, in the tyme of those civill troubles; there made Lieutenant to Thomas Erle of Sussex (then Lord Generall of her Ma<sup>ties</sup> Armie) and also Colonell of the footmen, and one of the counsell in that service, he being then but 20 years of age, and warde to her Ma<sup>tie</sup>. He travailed into Fraunce 1570. He was made lieutenant of the County of Lincolne 1582. He was made Knight of the Garter 1584. On the 5th day of July, 1586, as chief commissioner for her Majestie, he concluded with the  
Scottishe

Scottishe King's Commissioners at Barwick upon Tweede, a legue of Amitye between the two Realmes. On the 14th of April following, being Good Friday, 1587, he departed this life near Puddle Wharfe, in London, fro whence his corps was hither brought, and buried the 15th day of May next followinge. He left yssue by his honourable wief, Isabel Holcroft, daughter to Sir Thomas Holcroft, knight, one daughter, named Elizabeth, then of the age of eleven yeares, and almost four monythes, which daughter was married in January 1588, to Willia Cicell, Esquier, eldest sonne to Sir Thomas Cicell, knight, eldest sonne to the Lord Burghley, then and now Lord High Treasurer of Englande; by whom she left yssue one sone, named William, and died at London in April 1591."

Against the north wall of the chancel is a *monument* to JOHN, FOURTH Earl of Rutland, whose effigy is in armour, with a coronet, and ruff, a mat under his head, and a bull at his feet. By his side is his lady, in an ermine mantle, ruff, drest hair, falling ruffles, with a leopard's head at her feet. At their head is a lady kneeling, in a ruff, drest hair, and pinked sleeves, a son and daughter at their feet; two more kneel in front, and three sons in armour with ruffs. The inscription states, that this Earl died on the 24th of February, 1587, being then Lieutenant of Nottingham; and that he had by "his most honorable and virtuous lady, Elizabeth Charleton, daughter of Fraunces Charleton; Esq. five sons and four daughters."

On the north side is a *monument*, for ROGER, FIFTH Earl of Rutland, with an inscription, recording that, in the year 1595, he travelled into France, Italy, Swisserland, and the Low Countries; that he was Colonel of Foot in the Irish wars, 1598; and Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, 1603: when he went Ambassador to Denmark, to carry the Order of the Garter to the King; and that he died, without issue, June 26, 1612. He is represented in ermine robes, with a coronet and armour on a cushion, and a peacock at his feet.

Against the south wall of the chancel is the *monument* of  
FRANCIS,



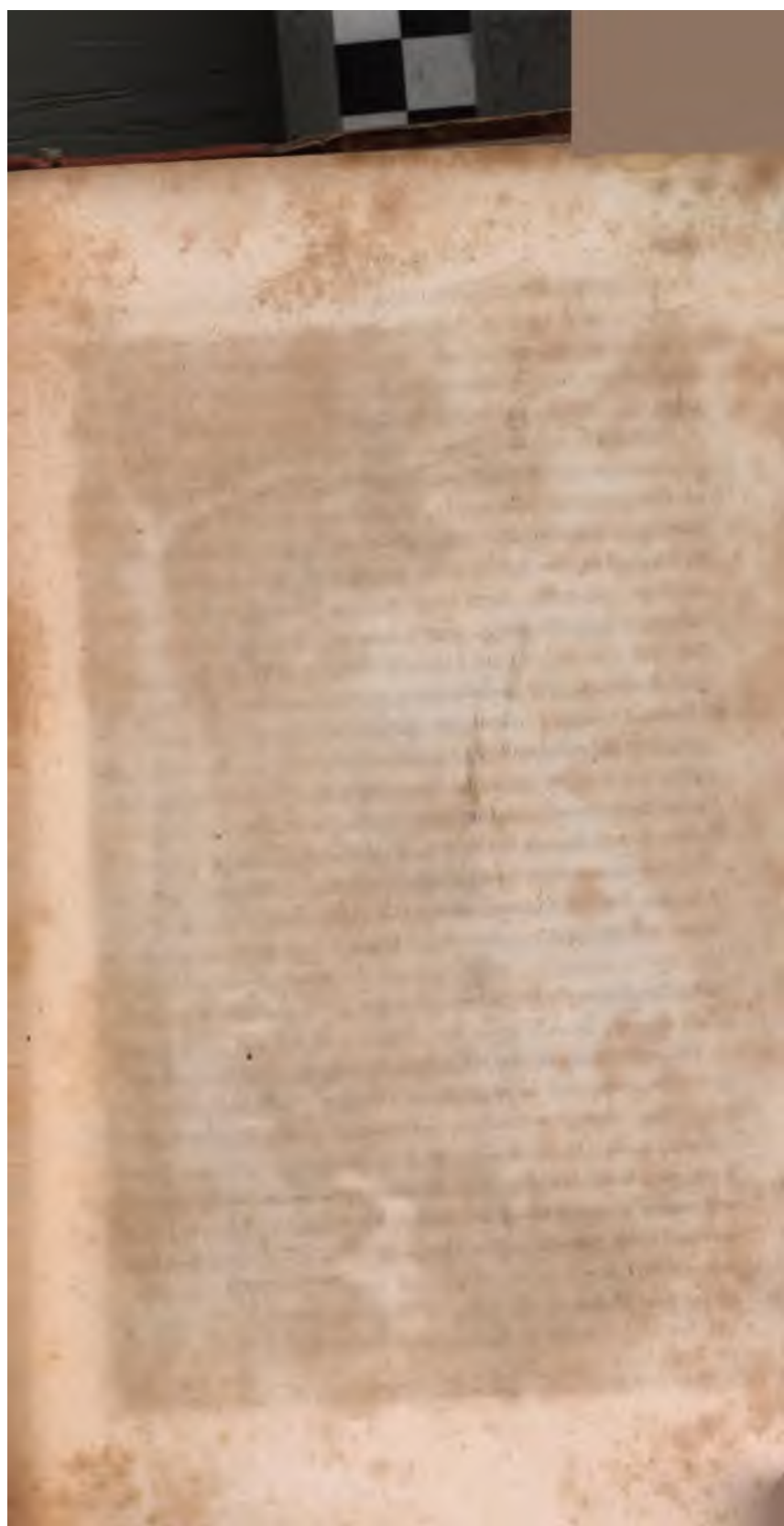
**FRANCIS**, the **SIXTH** Earl of Rutland, whose effigy is habited in the robes and insignia of the garter, with a picked beard and whiskers, sword, satin trunk hose, with a peacock at his feet. Of this Earl we are informed, in a long inscription, that he was highly honoured by most of the Princes of Europe; was Knight of the Bath in 1604; married Lady Francis Bevil, daughter of Sir Henry Knyvett, by whom he had one daughter, Katherine Duchess of Buckingham; afterwards married Lady Cecile Hungerford, daughter of Sir John Tufton, by whom he had two sons, "both which died in their infancy, by wicked practice and sorcerye." In 1612 he was made Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, and Chief Justice in Eyre; in 1616, made a Knight of the Garter; and in that year was one of the Lords appointed to attend King James into Scotland. At the foot, on a flat stone, it is stated thus "Francis, Earl of Rutland, was buried Feb. 20, 1632."

Against the same wall is a white marble monument, for **GEORGE**, **SEVENTH** Earl of Rutland, who is represented in a Roman habit: the inscription specifies, that he married Frances, sister of Viscount Falkland, and died in the Savoy, London, 29th March, 1641.

A similar monument, on the opposite side, commemorates **JOHN**, **EIGHTH** Earl of Rutland, and Frances his wife, who are represented in effigies as large as life. He in a Roman habit; she with her right hand on her breast, bearing her robes with her left; her hair strung with jewels. She died May 1671—the Earl, September 1679.

These monuments, and the whole interior of Bottesford church, are now preserved in careful and clean condition: though formerly they were obscured by dust and filth, and greatly injured by mischievous boys, &c. The Rev. William Mounsey, during his curacy here, laudably appropriated his leisure time to clean and repair these monuments; and to his exemplary care is to be ascribed their present respectable condition. "No monumental inscription," says Mr. Nichols, "is yet placed in memory of either of the four Dukes of Rutland, or the great Marquis of Granby, who are all buried at Bottesford with their ancestors."

BELVOIR CASTLE







BELVOIR CASTLE, the splendid seat of the Manners family for many generations, and now belonging to *John Henry Manners*, the fifth *Duke of Rutland*, is the greatest ornament of the county; and the whole demesne embraces a large tract of land at the north eastern corner of Leicestershire, and extends into Lincolnshire. In some topographical works it has been described as situated in the latter county. Camden says, "In the west part of Kesteven, on the edge of this county (Lincolnshire) and Leicestershire there stands Belvoir castle, so called (whatever was its ancient name), from the fine prospect on a steep hill, which seems the work of art." Burton expressly says, that this castle "is certainly in Lincolnshire;" and the authors of the '*Magna Britannia*' repeat the same terms. Mr. Nichols, whose authority on this, and most other subjects of local history respecting Leicestershire, is decisive and satisfactory, states that "the Castle is at present in every respect considered as being within this county, with all the lands of the extra-parochial part of Belvoir thereto belonging (including the site of the priory); consisting in the whole of about 600 acres of wood, meadow, and pasture ground; upon which are now no buildings but the Castle, with its offices, and the Inn. It would be a difficult matter, notwithstanding, to trace out with accuracy the precise boundary of the two counties in this neighbourhood\*."

Leland notices it in the following terms, "Bever castle of surety standeth in *Leircestre (Lincolnshir)*, in the vale of Bever†." In another place he writes, "The Castelle of *Bellevoire* standith in the utter part of that way of Leicestershir on the very keepe of an highe hille, stepe up eche way, partely by nature, partely by working of mennes handes, as it may evidently be perceyvid. Wither ther were any Castelle ther afore the conquest, or no, I am not sure; but surely I think rather no then ye. *Totenius* was the first enhabiter after the conquest. Then it cam to Albeneius.

VOL. IX.

K k

And

\* History of Leicestershire, Vol. I. p. 23.

† Itinerary, Vol. VI. f. 29.



And from Albevnus to Ros. Of this descent and of the foundation of the Priory in the Village at the Castle foote, I have written a quire separately\*."

The original castle was founded by *Robert de Todeni*, who obtained the name of *Robert de Belveder*, and who was standard-bearer to William the Conqueror. At the Domesday Survey it was probably one of the two manors noticed under the name of Wolsthorpe: but afterwards becoming the head of the lordship, the whole was distinguished by the title of "Manerium de Belvoir, cum membris de Wollethorpe †."

As the possessors of this castle and lordship were chiefly persons of great eminence, and many of them distinguished in the historical annals of the county; and as some of them, from their dignity and power, exercised considerable control over this and the contiguous counties; it will be necessary to give a concise account of the most eminent. *Robert*, the first Norman lord, died in 1088, and was buried in the chapter-house of the Priory, where Dr. Stukeley discovered a stone inscribed to his memory. "By a general survey taken at the death of *Robert de Todenei*, it appears that he was in possession of fourscore lordships: many of which, by uninterrupted succession, continue still to be the property of the Duke of Rutland. The lordships in *Leicestershire*, as enumerated in Domesday, were, Horninghold, Medborne, Blaston, Harby, Barkston (including Plungar), Bottesford, Redmile, Knip-ton, Loughton, Lubbenham, Barkby Thorpe, Hungarton, Croxton, Quenby, Long-Clauston, Howes, Stathern, and Holwell.—In Lincolnshire his domains were still more numerous. In Northamptonshire he had nine lordships; one of which, *Stoke*, acquired the additional name of *Albini*, when it came into the possession of his son †."

*William de Albini*, son of the above, succeeded to these lordships; and, like his father, was a celebrated warrior, and distinguished

\* Itinerary, Vol. I. f. 114.

† Inq 26 Edward III.

‡ History of Leicestershire, Vol. I. p. 23.

guished himself at the Battle of Tenerchebray in Normandy, where Henry the First encountered Robert Curthose, his brother. Matthew Paris describes the actions of William as being particularly valiant on this occasion. King Stephen and Henry the Second granted the castle of Belvoir to Ranulph de Gernons, Earl of Chester: but it was again obtained by de Albini, who died here about 1155. He obtained from Henry the First a grant of an annual fair at Belvoir, to be continued for eight days.

*William de Albini* (alias *Meschines*, and *Brito*), the next possessor of Belvoir, &c. endowed the *Priory* here with certain lands, and, in 1165, on the aid granted to Henry II. for marrying his eldest daughter Maud to the Emperor, certified the king that he then held of him thirty-two knights' fees under the old feoffment, whereby he was enfeoffed in the time of King Henry the First.

*William de Albini*, the third of the name, was a distinguished character in the reign of King Richard the First, and went with that monarch into Normandy in 1195. In 1211, a peace being concluded between King John and the French King, William de Albini was one of the sureties for the former. He was also one of those twenty-five barons who swore to the observation of *Magna Charta* and *Charta de Foresta*, sealed by the King at Runnemeade, in the 17th year of his reign. Afterwards he was engaged in the barons' wars, and was taken prisoner by the king's party at Rochester Castle. The castle at Belvoir was also seized by the monarch. Previous to his death, he granted several immunities to the Priory of Belvoir, for the health of his own soul, and the soul of Agatha his wife, and the soul of Margery his former wife. He also founded, and plentifully endowed, the *hospital* of our lady, called *Novum-locum*, (Newstead,) at Wassebridge, between Stamford and Uffington, where he was interred in May 1236.

An opulent heiress of the house of Albini, named Isabel, married to *Robert de Ros*, or *Roos*, baron of Hamlake, and thus carried these estates, &c. into a new family. The bounds of the lordship of Belvoir at this time are described by a document



printed in Nichols's History. This new lord obtained a licence from Henry III. to hold a weekly *market* at Belvoir, and an annual fair. He died in 1285, and his body was buried at Kirkham, his bowels before the high altar at Belvoir, and his heart at Croxton Abbey. It was a common practice in this age, for eminent characters to have their corporal remains thus distributed after death. An inscription, with the arms of Robert de Ros, is preserved in the church at Bottesford. In 1304, *William de Ros* was allowed to inclose 100 acres in the parish of Redmile, under the name of *Bever Park*, which was appropriated solely to the preservation of game. This gentleman was a benefactor to the Priory of Belvoir, to the Priory of Ouston, and also to the house of White Friars at Blakeney in Norfolk. He died in 1317; and was buried in the monastery of Kirkham.

*William de Ros*, eldest son of the above, finished the foundation in 1321, which his father had begun, at Blakeney; was made Lord Ros, of Werke, took the title of Baron Ros, of Hamlake, Werke, Belvoir, and Trusbut: and had summons to parliament from 11th Edward II. to 16th Edward III. He was also appointed Lord High Admiral of England. Dying in 1342, he was interred at Kirkham, in Yorkshire, under a monument near the great altar.

*Sir William de Ros*, Knight, was a very distinguished character during the reign of Henry the Fourth; was appointed Lord High Treasurer in 1402, and one of the triers of petitions in parliament. He also held several other offices of state. By his will he gave 400*l.* "for finding ten honest chaplains to pray for his soul, and the souls of his father, mother, brethren, sisters," &c. for eight years, within his chapel at Belvoir Castle. He died here in 1414; and his monument was removed from Belvoir Priory to Bottesford church, after the dissolution.

*John Ros*, the eldest son of the above, succeeded to the estates in 1414, and was slain, with his brother William, at Baugé, near Anjou. His remains were brought to England, and immured at Belvoir, and his monument is now preserved at Bottesford. He

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was succeeded by *Thomas Ros*, his brother, who was knighted in the wars of France. Dying in 1431, he was succeeded by his son, who was then an infant; but who, on coming to age, took an active part in the civil wars between the houses of York and Lancaster. He was attainted in parliament, the 4th of November, 1461; and the possessions of this noble family were parcelled out, by King Edward the Fourth, among his numerous partizans. "The honor, castle, and lordship of Belvoir, with the park, and all its members, viz. Wolsthorp, Barkston, Plungar, Redmile, Harby, Bottesford, Normanton, and Easthorpe, with the advowsons of their several churches, and the rent called Castle-guard throughout England, at that time an appurtenance to this castle, were granted, August 9th, 1467, to *William, Lord Hastings*, to hold of the king and his heirs, by homage only\*." Leland gives the following account of the castle, &c. at this time. "The Lord Ros toke King Henry the VI. parte agayn King Edward; wherapon the Lord Roses landes stode as confiscate, King Edward prevailing; and Bellevoir castle was given in keeping to the Lord Hastings; the which coming thither upon a tyme to peruse the ground, and to lye in the castel, was sodenly repellid by Mr. Harington, a man of poure thereabout, and friend to the Lord Rose; wherapon the Lord Hastings came thither another tyme with a stronge poure, and apou a raging wylle spoilid the castelle, defacing the rofes, and taking the leades of them †, wherwith they were al covirid. Then felle alle the castelle to ruine; and the tymbre of the rofes unkeverid rotted away; and the soile betwene the waulles at the last grue ful of elders; and no habitation was

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there

\* Nichols's History, from "Pat. 7, Edward IV. Pars 1."

† "The Lord Hastings caryed much of this leade to Aschely-de-la-Zouche, wher he much buildid. The Lord Hastings likewise spoiled Stoke de Albayne, a goodly manor place of the Roses, . . . miles from Stamford, as I remember, in Northamptonshire, and carryd part of it also to Asheby-de-la-Zouche." Leland's Itin. Vol. I. pp. 114-115.



there tyl that of late dayes the eyrle of Rutland hath made it fairer than ever it was\*."

In 1472-3, on the petition of *Sir Henry Ros*, Knight, the Act of Attainder was repealed. Again, in 1483, *Edmund Lord Ros* presented a petition to the parliament, for obtaining possession of all the family estates. He resided at the manor house of Elsinges, in Enfield, Middlesex, where he died in 1508, and where an elegant monument was erected to his memory. Dying without issue, his sisters became heirs to the estates; and *Eleanor*, the eldest, marrying *Robert de Maners*, of Ethale, in the county of Northumberland, conveyed her moiety of the Ros property into the family, who have continued to possess it to the present time. *George Manners*, eldest son of the above-named Robert, succeeded to his father's estates; among which were those of Belvoir Castle, Hamlake in Yorkshire, and that of Orston in Nottinghamshire. By his will, a copy of which is given by Mr. Nichols, dated October 16th, 1513, he is styled "Sir George Maners, Knight, Lord Ros." He was interred, with his lady, in a chantry chapel (founded by his father-in-law, Sir Thomas St. Ledger) in the chapel of St. George, at Windsor, where an handsome monument was raised to his memory. *Thomas Lord Ros*, succeeded his father, and was created, by Henry the Eighth, a knight, and afterwards EARL OF RUTLAND, a title which had never before been conferred on any person but of the blood-royal. This nobleman, being very active in suppressing some rebellions during the time of dissolving the monasteries, was rewarded, by the monarch, with several of the monastic manors and estates. Among these were the dissolved priories of Belvoir, and Egle in Lincolnshire. He caused many ancient monuments of the Albinis and Rosses to be removed from the priory churches of Belvoir and Croxton to that of Bottesford. And to this nobleman is to be attributed the restoration and rebuilding of Belvoir Castle, which had continued in ruins from the time of Lord Hastings's attack. It

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\* Itinerary, Vol. I. fo. 114.

was during the time that this Earl of Rutland possessed Belvoir Castle, that Leland visited it, and described it in the following terms. "It is a straunge sighte to se be how many steppes of stone the way goith up from the village to the castel. In the castel be 2 faire gates; and the dungeon is a faire rounde towere now turned to pleasure, as a place to walk yn, and to se al the countrey aboute, and raylid about the round (wall), and a garden (plotte) in the midle. There is also a welle of grete depth in the castelle, and the spring thereof is very good\*."

*Henry, the second Earl of Rutland*, succeeded his father in 1543; and, after being engaged in some of the Scotch wars, devoted his attention to the castle of Belvoir, the buildings of which were greatly extended during his life. He also collected together, from the ruined monasteries, several of the monuments of his ancestors. In 1556, he was appointed, by Philip and Mary, captain-general of all the forces then going to France, also chief commander of the fleet. He was installed knight of the garter, June 4, 1559; and the same year was made lord lieutenant of the counties of Nottingham and Rutland. His monument, with those of the other Earls of Rutland, have been already noticed in the account of Bottesford.

*Edward, the third Earl of Rutland*, eldest son of the former, succeeded in 1563; was made lord lieutenant of the county of Lincoln in 1582; and knight of the garter in 1585. Camden calls him, "a profound lawyer, and a man accomplished with all polite learning†." In his will, which is written in a style very superior to the generality of such productions, he directs 100*l.* at least, to be expended on his tomb.

*John*, a colonel of foot in the Irish wars, became *fourth Earl of Rutland* in 1587; and, in the same year, was constituted

K k 4 constable

\* "This well is 114 feet deep, and has still usually in summer about thirty-eight feet of water." Nichols.

† History of Queen Elizabeth, Book III. p. 127.



constable of Nottingham Castle, and lord lieutenant of that county, and died in February 1587-8. He was followed by his son *Roger*, the *fifth* Earl, whose titles, &c. are already specified. Dying without issue, his brother *Francis* was nominated his heir, and made the *sixth* Earl. He was a great traveller, and appointed to several important offices of state. He married two wives, by the first of whom he had only one child, named *Catharine*, who married *George Villiers*, the first Duke of Buckingham. Her issue, *George*, the second Duke of Buckingham, dying without an heir, the title of Lord Ros of Hamlake again reverted to the Rutland family. By a second marriage he had two sons, who, according to the monument, were murdered by "wicked practice and sorcery \*."

*George* was created *seventh* Earl in 1632; and was honoured with a visit from King Charles, at Belvoir Castle, in July, 1634.

The *eighth* Earl was *John Manners*, who was born in 1604, and came to the Belvoir estates after the death of the preceding earl. Attaching himself to the Parliamentarians, he thereby involved his castle in the consequences of attack from the royal army. It was occasionally garrisoned by each party; and, in the

\* As, illustrative of the folly and superstition of the times, it may be amusing to explain this. Joan Flower, and her two daughters, who were servants at Belvoir castle, having been dismissed the family, in revenge, made use of all the enchantments, spells, and charms, that were at that time supposed to answer their malicious purposes. Henry, the eldest son, died soon after their dismissal; but no suspicion of witchcraft arose till five years after, when the three women, who are said to have entered into a formal contract with the devil, were accused of "murdering Henry Lord Ros by witchcraft, and torturing the Lord Francis his brother, and Lady Catharine his sister." After various examinations, before Francis Lord Willoughby of Eresby, and other magistrates, they were committed to Lincoln gaol. Joan died at Auncaster, on her way thither, by wishing the bread and butter she eat might choak her if guilty. The two daughters were tried before Sir Henry Hobbert, chief justice of the Common Pleas, and Sir Edward Bromley, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, confessed their guilt, and were executed at Lincoln, March 11, 1618-19.

the struggles for victory, the place must have materially suffered. October 25, 1645, the Earl of Rutland represented to the House of Peers, "that he hath had his whole estate, in Lyncolne, Leycester, Nottingham, and Yorkeshire, possessed by the enemy, from the beginning of these unhappy wars, his houses spoiled, and not received any of his rents, whereby he is put to great streights for maintenance of his family; beside, was left in much debt by the late Earl of Rutland, which since is so much augmented, that the pressure is heavy upon him. Now so it is, that the Lord Viscount Campden hath been a principal instrument in the ruin of the petitioner's castle, lands, and woods, about Belvoyre, ever since the first taking thereof, being a chief commander there, and to the damage of the petitioner above 20,000l." The lords recommended this petition to the house of commons; and it was agreed by both houses, "That 1,500l. a year be allowed and paid to the Earl of Rutland, for his present subsistence, out of the Lord Viscount Campden's estate, until 5,000l. be levied out of the said estate, to the use of the said Earl of Rutland\*." To describe the various events that occurred at Belvoir castle during the civil wars, would occupy much space; and would be nearly a repetition of several engagements, sieges, &c. that have been already detailed in the preceding volumes of this work.

*John*, the third son of the above nobleman, succeeded his father in these estates, &c. in 1679, when he became the *ninth Earl*. He was married three times; was particularly attached to the castle of Belvoir; and spent a sort of rural life here. Though he declined appearing at court, the Queen advanced him to the titles of *Marquis of Granby*, in the county of Nottingham, and *Duke of Rutland*. He died here in January, 1710-11, and was buried at Bottesford, when the Rev. Mr. Felton preached a sermon, which was afterwards published, and which contains some account of the family, with a panegyric on the deceased duke.

On

\* Journals of the House of Lords, Vol. VII. p. 662.



On the death of the preceding nobleman, *John* his son, succeeded to the title of *Duke*, and obtained the connected estates. He had two wives: the first bore him five sons and four daughters, and the second six sons. He was succeeded in the titles, &c. by *John*, the eldest son, February 22, 1720-1. This was the last of the Rutland family who made Haddon, in Derbyshire, an occasional residence; and is said to have built the present hunting-seat at Croxton Park, about the year 1730. He also made some improvements at Belvoir, about the year 1750; died May 29, 1779; and was buried at Bottesford. He was succeeded by his grandson, *Charles Lord Ros*, FOURTH Duke, who died lord lieutenant of Ireland, October 24, 1787; when his son *John Henry*, the present, and FIFTH Duke, came to the possession of the titles and estates.

*Belvoir Castle*, in its ancient state, may be pretty well estimated from the accounts of Leland, &c. already recited; but to give a full and satisfactory account of it in its present condition, would be no easy task. For when a large building is enveloped with scaffolding, mortar, loose stones, &c. and masons and carpenters are daily making alterations, it would be absurd to describe it in the real state, as presented to the eye; and equally, or more absurd, to specify what it is intended to be. It must suffice to state, that the castle occupies nearly the summit of a lofty hill, up the sides of which are several stone steps, and on its southern slope are some "hanging gardens," or inclosed terraces, with shrubberies, &c. The building surrounds a quadrangular court; and by the alterations now making, from the elegant designs of *James Wyatt*, Esq. it will assume a majestic, castellated appearance. The situation and aspect partly resemble Windsor.

"Belvoir, art's master piece, and nature's pride,

High in the regions of ethereal air,

Above the troubled atmosphere,

Above the magazines of hail and snow,

Above

Above the place that meteors breeds,  
 Above the seat where lie the seeds,  
 Whence raging storms and tempests grow,  
 That do infest the troubled world below \*."

The noble mansion of Belvoir is enriched and adorned with a valuable and numerous collection of pictures; to describe the whole of which would occupy a volume. On the decease of the late Duke, they were entrusted to the care of the Rev. William Peters, rector of Knipton in this neighbourhood, a gentleman who has evinced the possession of considerable talents as an artist, in some pictures painted for the Shakespeare gallery. As a painter and a scholar he is, therefore, peculiarly qualified to appreciate, and write an account of the valuable charge committed to his care. In a communication to Mr. Nichols, he says, "Belvoir Castle contains one of the best collections of paintings in this kingdom, whether considered in the variety of schools which are brought together in one view, or in the judicious choice of the works of each master. Of the Italian school, NICHOLAS POUSSIN, in his celebrated works of the *Seven Sacraments*, stands most conspicuous; GUIDO, CARLO DOLCI, and SALVATOR ROSA, have each a performance, which may vie with any other work extant of these celebrated masters; and if CLAUDE DE LORRAIN be admitted as an Italian—and in truth, as a painter, no other country than Italy can with equal right claim him as her own; for, though born in Lorrain, his school was on the banks of the Tyber; the ruins of ancient Rome were his buildings; his shepherds were the inhabitants of Tivoli; and the clear and warm air of the Campagna, breathes in every tint and floats upon the canvas—let us then, without hesitation, class him with the natives of his beloved country, and he will bring a powerful aid to their assistance; for of his pencil there are no less than five. RUBENS, the prince of Flemish painters, appears no where with more brilliancy than in Belvoir Castle; it is enriched with six of his

\* A Pindaric Ode upon Belvoir Castle, written about 1679; first printed in the Harleian Miscellany, Vol. IV. p. 527, and reprinted in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. Appendix, p. 50, &c.



his hand; of MURILLO, the boast of Spain, there are three large compositions; and TENIERS, that child of Nature, furnishes the castle with eight of his best finished and most pleasing performances. REYNOLDS, the first, and as yet chief, of the English school, holds a distinguished rank among his brethren of the pencil; and by the classic arrangement of his figures, the grouping of his angels, the beauty of his colouring, and the distribution of his light and shade, in his picture of the Nativity, takes the palm of victory from one of the best pictures Rubens ever painted, which hangs opposite to it, in seeming competition with this unrivalled work of our British artist.

“ John the third Duke of Rutland, and Charles the late much-lamented owner of these works, were both of them Patrons of the Arts, in the fullest extent of that word; for they were not contented only to look at and admire the dawning of genius in the infant mind, but sought out excellence wherever it could be found, cherished it in its bud, protected it in its progress, and supported it with their fortunes, when ripened into that state of perfection which it could only attain to by the liberal and steady patronage of the good and great. John, the third Duke, delighted much in the management of the pencil, and employed many of his leisure hours in that most pleasing amusement; and to the fostering hand of the late Duke, the Arts are indebted for their flourishing state in this country. By an early and warm attachment to men whose works have formed that style of painting which has created an English school, he did equal honour to himself, to his country, and to the age in which he lived. All the modern pictures, of which there are a very considerable number, were of his collecting.”

Among the pictures already referred to, are the following:—

PORTRAITS, by *Sir Joshua Reynolds*. JOHN, MARQUIS of GRANBY\*, three-quarters. Another, full length, with his hus-

sar

\* An engraved Portrait of this eminent General, from a picture by Sir Joshua, with a Memoir of his Life and public services, are preparing for publication, in a work devoted to the memories of distinguished English Characters;

sar and horse. EARL of MANSFIELD, half length. LORD ROBERT MANNERS: the head copied from a portrait by Dance.—SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS.—GENERAL OGLETHORPE.—The SECOND EARL of CHATHAM, whole length.—KITTY FISHER. By *Sir Peter Lely*. The FIRST DUKE of RUTLAND, half length.—JOHN, SECOND DUKE of RUTLAND, half length.—LORD ANGLESEA. By *Closterman*. JOHN, SECOND DUKE of RUTLAND, with a view in the back ground of a bridge, &c. HENRY VIII. a whole length, and the most perfect known of the master, by *Hans Holbein*. LORD CHAWORTH, by *Vandyck*.—SIR ISAAC NEWTON, and DUKE of MONMOUTH, by *Kneller*. LORD GEORGE CAVENDISH, by *Pompeo Battoni*. CHARLES I. on Horseback, from Van Dyck; *Old Stone*. WILLIAM, FIRST EARL of CHATHAM, half length; *Hoare*. CHARLES, DUKE of RUTLAND; *Dance*. PICTURES.—The Seven Sacraments, by *N. Poussin*.—Two Landscapes, by *Poussin*. Dutch Proverbs.—Boors at Cards.—An Old Woman with her Dram Bottle.—Cranes.—An Ox-Stall.—Temptations of St. Anthony.—An Old Man's Head, with Jug and Glass, by *Teniers*. Death of Lord Robert Manners, by *Stothard*. Barbarossa.—Madonna and Child, by *Vandyck*. Sunset.—Another Sunset, small.—Flight into Egypt.—Landscape, with a large tree in the centre.—Landscape, two figures in a boat, by *Claude*. Sea Monster, by *Salvator Rosa*. Nativity.—Infant Jupiter.—Old Man reading.—Head of a Boy.—Samuel, by *Sir Joshua Reynolds*. Hercules and Antæus.—Maid of Orleans.—Shepherd and Shepherdess.—Landscape.—A Female Martyr receiving the Crown of Victory from the Infant Jesus: the three female saints in this picture Characters; and which is to consist of Portraits, historical Prints, Monuments, &c.



ture were Rubens' three wives.—Holy Family, small.—The Gods, by *Rubens*.

Landscape, Cottagers and Man bringing Wood.—Landscape, with Cattle.—Landscape, with Cart-Horses, by *Gainsborough*.

Christ disputing with the Doctors.—Samuel presented to Eli.—William of Albanac and his three Daughters, by *West*.

King John delivering Magna Charta to the Barons.—A Conversation Piece, with a Pilgrim.—Ditto, with Soldiers, a Woman, Fish, &c. by *Mortimer*.

**POOR.**—The condition and management of the *Poor* of a country constitute a subject of political importance, whether considered in a national point of view, or as appealing to the feelings and studies of the philosopher and politician. It is much to the honour of the British Parliament, that this has not been overlooked, in the multiplicity of objects which necessarily devolve to them in the usual routine of official business. In the year 1804, a large folio volume was printed by order of the House of Commons, containing an "*Abstract of the Answers and Returns made pursuant to an Act (43d Geo. III.) for procuring Returns relative to the Expence and Maintenance of the POOR IN ENGLAND.*" After the returns respecting Leicestershire, it is observed that, in the year 1776, returns were obtained from 312 "parishes or places;" in 1785, the returns amounted to 305; and, in 1803, the number of "parishes or places" making returns was 323. It is then further stated, that "Sixty-nine parishes or places maintain all, or part of, their Poor in Workhouses. The number of persons so maintained, during the year ending Easter 1803, was 954; and the expence, incurred therein, amounted to 10,710*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* being at the rate of 11*l.* 4*s.* 6½*d.* for each person maintained in that manner. It appears from the returns of 1776, that there are forty-four Workhouses, capable of accom-

modating

modating 1311 Persons.—The number of persons relieved *out* of Workhouses was 18,200, besides 2,268 who were not parishioners. The expence incurred in the relief of the poor *not in* Workhouses, amounted to 69,136l. 9s. 5d. A large proportion of those who were not Parishioners appear to have been Vagrants; and therefore, it is probable, that the relief given to this class of poor could not exceed two shillings each, amounting to 226l. 16s. which being deducted from the above 69,136l. 9s. 5d. leaves 68,909l. 13s. 5d. being at the rate of 3l. 13s. 8½d. for each parishioner relieved *out* of any Workhouse.—The number of persons relieved, *in* and *out* of Workhouses, was 19,154, besides those that were not parishioners. Excluding the expence supposed to be incurred in the relief of this class of poor, all other expences, relative to the maintenance of the poor, amounted to 83,579l. 4s. 10¾d. being at the rate of 4l. 7s. 3½d. for each parishioner relieved. The Resident Population of the County of Leicester, in 1801, appears from the Population Abstract to have been 130,081; so that the number of Parishioners relieved from the Poor's Rates appears to be fifteen in an hundred, of Resident Population.—The number of persons belonging to Friendly Societies appears to be eight in an hundred of Resident Population.—The amount of the total money raised by Rates appears to average at 16s. 6½d. per head on the Population.—The amount of the whole expenditure on account of the Poor appears to average at 12s. 10½d. per head on the Population.—The expenditure in suits of law, removal of paupers, and expences of overseers and other officers, according to the present abstract, amounts to 3,895l. 0s. 6¾d. The amount of such expenditure, according to the returns of 1785, was then 1,596l. 18s. 2d.—The expenditure in purchasing materials for employing the poor, by the present abstract, amounts to 308l. 19s. 0½d. by the abstract of 1785, it was then 165l. 16s. 5d.—The Poor of Eleven Parishes or Places in this county, are farmed, or maintained under contract.—It is not known that any Parish or Place in this county maintains its Poor under a special Act of Parliament.—One hundred Friendly

Societies



Societies have been enrolled at the Quarter Sessions of this county, pursuant to the Acts of 33d and 35th Geo. III.—The area of the county of Leicester (according to the latest authorities) appears to be 816 square statute miles, equal to 522,240 statute acres: wherefore, the number of inhabitants in each square mile averages at 159 persons."

Among the natives of eminence of this county, was Dr. RICHARD PULTENEY, who was born at *Loughborough*, Feb. 17, 1730. Whilst at school, he there formed a taste for natural history; and devoted his hours of relaxation to the study of plants. Having served an apprenticeship to an apothecary, he first settled in business at Leicester, where religious animosities retarded his practice; but he sought consolation, and found it, in the study of botany, which he wished to render an object of more general attention than it hitherto had been. On this subject he, in 1750, commenced a correspondence, which continued many years, with the *Gentleman's Magazine*. The "Sleep of Plants," on which he wrote two Essays in that Magazine, he afterwards treated more scientifically in the *Philosophical Transactions*. He obtained a Doctor's degree from the University of Edinburgh in 1764; soon after which, having ineffectually endeavoured to obtain an establishment in London, he commenced practice as a physician at Blandford, in Dorsetshire: where, by his exemplary private and professional conduct, he soon acquired reputation and affluence. Having hitherto confined his literary undertakings to detached and occasional essays, in 1781 he appeared before the public as a regular author, by the publication of his "General View of the Writings of Linnæus;" the reception and effect of which were fully adequate to his wishes. Sanctioned by the approbation of all who were conversant on the subject, the work soon attracted general notice; the labours of Linnæus, and the sciences

sciences to which they related, became more correctly understood, and the doctor found himself among the first of Linnæan scholars, and philosophical naturalists. The work had an extensive sale in this kingdom, and, being translated into French, acquired great celebrity on the Continent. Thus encouraged, he undertook a more original and laborious performance, entitled "Historical and Biographical Sketches of the Progress of Botany in England, from its Origin to the Introduction of the Linnæan System," which was published in 1790. Besides these literary labours, in which his reputation was more immediately involved, he furnished copious communications on the subjects to various contemporary authors. Among other publications of repute, Dr. Aikin's "England Delineated," Mr. Gough's edition of "Hutchins's Dorsetshire," and Mr. Nichols's "History of Leicestershire," acquired from his pen some ample and valuable materials. Having been admitted a member of many Scientific Societies, and having exercised the medical profession forty years, he died the 13th of October, 1801, and was buried at Langton, about a mile from Blandford. An elegant tablet to his memory was erected by his widow in Blandford church. A good portrait of him is given by Mr. Nichols. Dr. Maton has also furnished the public with a well written scientific Memoir of Dr. Pulteney, prefixed to which is another portrait of him.

The hundred of WEST GOSCOTE, according to Mr. Nichols, contains the following townships, which having been accidentally omitted in the introduction to the hundred, the list is now given, to correspond with the other hundreds.

" *Ashby de la Zouch*, a vicarage; including *Alton Grange*, and the hamlets of *Balcroft*, *Blackfordby*, *Brasthorpe*, *Culwarby*, and *Swartcliff*. *Bradgate-house and Park*. *Bredon*, a vicarage; including the hamlets of *Newbold*, *Staunton Harold*, *Tongue*, *Wilston*, and *Worthington*. *Beaumanor*, extraparochial. *Burstall*, a chapelry. *Belton*, a vicarage; including *Meril Grange*. *Charley*, extraparochial. *Charnwood Forest*.



- Castle Donington*, a vicarage; including *Wartoft Grange*.  
*Cole Orton*, a rectory.  
*Diseworth*, a vicarage.  
*Dishley*, a donative; including *Thorpe Acre*.  
*Garendon Abbey*.  
*Gracedieu Nunnery*.  
*Hathern*, a rectory.  
*Kegworth*, a rectory; including the chapelry of *Walton Isley*.  
*Langley Nunnery*.  
*Leicester Abbey*, and *Abbey Gate*.  
*Lodington*, a vicarage; including the chapelry of *Hemington*.  
**LOUGHBOROUGH**, a rectory; including the hamlets of *Knightthorpe* and *Woodthorpe*; *Burley Park*, and *Loughborough Old Park*.  
*Newton Linford*, a chapelry.  
*Osgathorpe*, a rectory.  
*Packington*, a vicarage; including the chapelry of *Snibston*.  
*Quorndon*, a chapelry.  
*Raunston*, a rectory.
- Rothley*, a vicarage and peculiar jurisdiction; including the chapelries of *Cawdwell*, *Gad-desby*, *Grimstone*, *Keame*, *Mountsorell superior*, *Wartnaby*, and *Wykeham*.  
*Rothley Temple*, extraparochial.  
*Seile Nether*, a rectory; including the hamlets of *Over Seile*, *Donisthorpe*, and *Okethorpe*.  
*Shepeshed*, a vicarage.  
*Stretton en le Field*, a rectory.  
*Swebston*, a rectory; including the hamlets of *Newton Burguland*, and *Snareston*.  
*Swithland*, a rectory.  
*Thurcaston*, a rectory; including the hamlets of *Anstey* and *Cronston*.  
*Ulvescroft Abbey*, extraparochial.  
*Wanlip*, a rectory.  
*Whatton, Long*, a rectory.  
*Whitwick*, a vicarage; including the hamlet of *Swannington*, and the manor of *Thringston*.  
*Woodhouse*, a chapelry."

END OF LEICESTERSHIRE.

## LINCOLNSHIRE.

**T**HE county of Lincoln presents to the topographer, antiquary, historian, naturalist, and agriculturalist, a theme replete with interest; and to each of these, the latter excepted\*, it also unfolds a subject hitherto unexplored, and consequently full of novelty. Its topographical history having never been given to the public, renders it extremely difficult to collect into one focus the numerous rays of information that are now dispersed in various directions†; and to give a concise, but satisfactory account of the principal places, persons, and subjects, which peculiarly, and directly, belong to the county, is an arduous task; but it devolves to me as a duty, and I will endeavour to execute it in a manner satisfactory to myself, and to the liberal reader. The present history must, however, be very brief, as its limits are bounded by the volume, and that must not be disproportionably large. Hence, if I omit some places, or am not satisfactorily copious respecting others, I hope to experience the indulgence of those gentlemen of the county whose local partialities may have required, or anticipated, more circumstantial details.

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That

\* On this subject we have had two large volumes; one entitled "*A General View of the Agriculture of the County of Lincoln.*" By ARTHUR YOUNG, 8vo. 1799. This was followed by another volume of about 440 pages, entitled, "*A Review of the corrected Agricultural Survey of Lincolnshire,*" &c. by THOMAS STONE, 8vo. 1800. This volume contains also, "An Address to the Board of Agriculture, a Letter to its Secretary, and Remarks on the recent Publication of Sir John Somerville, and on the subject of Inclosures."

† At the end of the volume will be given a list of such books, &c. as have been published respecting the topography of this county.



That part of the British Islands now called Lincolnshire, was, anterior to the Roman conquest, possessed by a class of the Britons known by the name of *Coritani*, who have been already described in the third volume of this work. During the dominion of the Romans in Britain, this district was included within the province of *Britannia Prima*; and from the evident remains, and best published accounts, it is indubitable, that it was intersected by different roads, occupied by military stations, and some of its natural inconveniences removed by means of Roman science and industry. The exact number of stations, roads, and encampments, however, is not, I believe, ascertained; but the Rev. Thomas Leman, of Bath, who has particularly studied the Roman Topography of England, has kindly furnished me with the following information on this subject.

“The British *Ermin Street*, afterwards adopted by the Romans, enters this county to the west of Stamford, and, joining the north road, runs by *Durnomagus*, (Great Casterton,) and *Causennis*, (Ancaster,) through *Lindum*, (Lincoln,) and *in medio*, about fifteen miles north of it, to *Ad-Abum*, near the banks of the Humber. A second branch of the same street branches off from this road to the westward, about five miles north of Lincoln, and crosses the river Trent near Littleborough, the *Segelocum*, and proceeds in a north-westerly direction to Doncaster, the *Danum* of Antoninus. A third branch of this road, separated from that first described, after crossing the Nen River in Northamptonshire, and ran in a straight line to Lolham Bridges; whence it probably continued, with the *Car-dyke*, all the way to Lincoln.

“Another branch left the Ermin Street, about six miles north of Stamford, and ran by Stenby, Denton, and Bottesford, towards *ad Pontem*, in its way to Southwell and Bantry.

“The *Foss*, beginning on the coast not far from Ludborough, is visible from *Ludford*, where was a station, probably *Bannorallum*, to Lincoln, on to *Crocolana*, (Bruff,) to Newark, &c. Besides these, there are also remains of other British track-ways; particularly

particularly one from *Horncastle*, which is supposed to have been a station towards Castor and the Humber. Another road, called the *Salt Way*, branched off from the Ermin Street, near Ponton, and ran by Denton into Leicestershire\*."

Doctor Stukeley supposes, that another Roman road was made "from the northern high country," *i. e.* of the Fens, "about *Bolinbrook*, by Stickford, Stickney, Sibsey, and so to Boston river, about Redstonegote, where it passed it by a ferry. From thence to Kirkton 'tis indubitably Roman, being laid with a very large bed of gravel; and just a mile from the river is a stone, now called the *Mile-stone*, standing in a quadrivium; 'tis a large round stone, like the frustrum of a pillar, and very probably a *Lapis Milliaris*." In another place the Doctor says, "At Sleaford, I am inclinable to think another road came from *Banovallum*, or Horn-castle, to the east of the river *Bane*, southward by *Les Yates*, and so crossed the Witham by Chappel Hill and the Car-dyke, somewhere about Kyme. I think we need not scruple to assert, that *Ravensbank* be another ancient road, going east and west through the heart of the country, from *Tid-St. Mary's* to Cowbit. I have rode some miles upon it, where 'tis now extremely strait and flat. We have been informed, that 'tis actually in some old writings called *Romans-Bank*†." The stations, encampments, &c. directly, and colla-

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terally

\* This has been already noticed in page 316. But Mr. Turner, in his "History of the Town and Soke of Grantham," furnishes the following additional particulars. "The *Salt-way* ran from the salt mines, at Droitwich, in Worcestershire, to the coast of Lincolnshire; entered Lincolnshire not far from *Saltby*, crossed the Witham at *Salter'sford*, near to the town, or Roman station at Ponton. Besides the barrows, the dykes, the ramparts, called King Lud's intrenchments, on Saltby Heath, noticed in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, where Roman coins have been found, are five *Barrows* on the Lincolnshire side, in Woolthorpe lordship, and two in the adjoining parish of Stainby, all within a little distance of this branch of the Ermine Street. A *Roman pavement*, also not far off, near Denton, and the Roman ruins near Stoke, mentioned in Nichols, &c. &c."

† Itinerarium Curiosum, p. 14, &c. Edit. 1724.



terally connected with these roads, will be described in the subsequent pages of this volume.

A great work of this county, generally attributed to the Romans, is the CAR-DYKE, a large canal, or drain, which extends from the river Welland, on the southern side of the county, to the river Witham, near Lincoln. Its channel, for nearly the whole of this course, an extent of about forty miles, (Dr. Stukeley says fifty,) is sixty feet in width, and has on each side a broad flat bank. The Doctor at first ascribed the origin of this great work to Catus Decianus, the procurator in Nero's time; and supposed that his name was preserved in the appellation of places, &c. in the vicinity of the Dyke. Those of *Catesbridge*, *Catwick*, *Catsgrove*, *Catley*, and *Catthorpe*, he adduced in support of his hypothesis; but having afterwards devoted some time and attention to the life of *Carausius*, the Doctor fancied he recognised part of the name of his hero in that of the present work. Thus some authors trifle with themselves and their readers by useless, and often puerile etymologies. Salmon, in the "New Survey of England," says, that "*Cardyke* signifies no more than *fendyke*. The fens of Ankholt-level, are called *Carrs*." Doctor Stukeley also admits, that Car and Fen are nearly synonymous words, and are "used in this country to signify watery, boggy places." *Câr*, in the British language, is applied to raft, sledge, &c. vehicles of carriage. This great canal preserves a level, but rather meandering course, along the eastern side of the high grounds, which extend in an irregular chain up the centre of the county, from Stamford to Lincoln. It thus receives, from the hills, all the draining and flowing waters, which take an easterly course, and which, but for this *Catchwater drain*, as now appropriately called, would serve to inundate the Fens. Several Roman coins have been found on the banks of this dyke. The whole of the present county is supposed to have been named by the Romans *Lindum*, and the principal station, or town, *Lindum-Colonia*.

During the Anglo-Saxon dominion of England, Lincolnshire

was incorporated within the kingdom of Mercia, which, according to an old chronicle quoted by Leland, was divided into two provinces, north and south; and as the Trent was the separating line, the county of Lincoln constituted a great part of *South Mercia*\*. Crida was the first Mercian sovereign, and began his reign in 586. At this time Mr. Turner supposed that the whole Island was governed by eight Anglo-Saxon monarchs; whence it should rather be denominated an octarchy than an heptarchy. During the establishment of these petty kingdoms, the Saxons were in constant warfare with the Romanized Britons; and after these were subdued, they were repeatedly embroiled in conflicts with each other. In the midst of these civil commotions Christianity was introduced, and gradually made its progress through the island. Peada, the son of Penda, was the reigning monarch here when this religion was offered to, and accepted by the South Mercians. This benign stranger gave a new turn to human pursuits, and soon diverted and engrossed the attention of the barbarous heathens. Peada founded a monastery at *Mederhamsted*, now Peterborough; and, according to Speed, governed all the middle part of Mercia, and, after the death of Oswy king of Northumberland, by gift, received all the southern part of that kingdom. This was only given on condition of his adopting the Christian faith; when he was also to marry *Alfreda*, daughter of Oswy. Peada was soon afterwards murdered, as supposed, by his wife †. “Edwin the Great, the first Christian king of Northumberland, conquered the counties of Durham, Chester, Lancaster, the Isle of Man, and Anglesea, carried his arms southward over the Trent, and obtained all the province of Lindsey. Paulinus, who converted him to Christianity, preached it wherever that King’s power extended.

L 1 4

\* Another chronicle says, that this kingdom was “departed into three partes, into West Mercia, Middle Mercia, and East Mercia: it contained the diocesses of Lincoln, Wircester, Hereford, Coventry, and Lichfield.”

† Bede, lib. III. ca. 24.—Speed, 252.



extended. He built the cathedral of Southwell, a little west of Newark, baptized many thousands in the river Trent, near to *Tiovulfingacester*, and converted Blecca the governor of Lincoln\*. This was about A. D. 630. The learned and pious Alkfrid kept his court at Stamford in 658. After the death of Oswy, King of Northumberland, Egfrid his son invaded Wulfere, and wrested from him the whole province of Lindsey, in Lincolnshire. This was about the year 673. In 677, he erected the Episcopal See of Sidnacester, in favour of Eadhed, who had been chaplain to his brother, King Alkfrid, of Deira. In A. D. 683, we learn from Ralph de Diceto, Eadhed left Lindissi for Ripon, where he remained till his death†. The South Mercian kingdom, and bishop's see, being thus established, we hear of but few other public events, 'till the incursions and pillages of the Danes. These free-booters were particularly active in this county, and committed numerous depredations on the monasteries, &c. *Ingulphus* has given a circumstantial account

\* Bede states, that Paulinus built a *stone church*, of notable workmanship, (*operis egregii*) in the city of Lincoln, the roof whereof being fallen to decay, or destroyed by enemies, left the bare walls standing alone. "In this place, however," he observes, "that every year some miraculous cures are generally wrought, for the benefit of those who seek the faith." Translation of Bede, Book II. ch. 16. In this work the city of Lincoln is particularly specified; but to identify the *Lincocolina* civitatis of Bede with the present city, requires something more than assertion; for the place adopted by Paulinus for the erection of this *stone church*, was most probably the subsequent Sidnacester. In the same chapter our venerable historian proceeds to state, that a certain Abbot and priest of singular veracity, named *Deda*, told him he knew an aged person who was baptized at noon-day, by the Bishop Paulinus, in the presence of King Edwin, in the river Trent, *near the city*, which, in the English Tongue, is called *Tiovulfingacester*. This will be more particularly enquired into hereafter.

† Dr. Stukeley, in a MS. quoted by Dickenson in his "*History and Antiquities of Newark*," 4to. 1806. In this work the Doctor and Mr. Dickenson endeavour to prove that Newark is the Saxon Sidnacester.

of their cruelties in this part of the island, and Hearne thus translates the abbot's narrative. Early in the year 870, "the Danes took shipping, and went into Lindisse, in Lincolnshire; and, landing at Humberstan, spoiled all that country. At which time the famous and ancient monastery of *Bardney* was destroyed, the Monks being all massacred in the church without mercy. And when they had stayed there all summer, wasting the country with fire and sword, about Michaelmas they came into *Kesteven*, in the same county, where they committed the like murders and desolations. At length, in September, 870, Count Algar, and two knights, his seneschals, call'd *Wibert* and *Leofric*, (from whose names the people thereabouts have since given appellations to the villages where they lived, calling them *Wiberton* and *Leofrington*,) drew together all the youth of Holland, with a brave body of two hundred men, belonging to Croyland Abby, who were led on by one *Toly*, a famous soldier among the Mercians before his conversion, but now a converted monk of the same monastery. These taking with them about three hundred more stout and warlike men from Deping, Langtoft, and Baston; to whom also joined *Morchar*, lord of Brunne, with his strong and numerous family; and being met by the sheriff of Lincoln, named *Osgot*, a valiant and ancient soldier, with the Lincolnshire forces, in number five hundred more, mustered together in Kesteven on St. Maurice's day, gave the Pagans battle, and, by God's assistance, vanquished them, with the slaughter of three of their kings, and a great number of common soldiers; the christians pursuing the barbarians to their very camp, where finding a very stout resistance, night at last parted them, and the Earl drew back his army. But it seems the same night there returned to the Danish camp all the rest of the princes of that nation, who, dividing the country among them, had marched out to plunder."

The next morning, notwithstanding the weakness of their forces, the Christians again gave battle to the Danes; who being "exasperated at the slaughter of their men, having buried their three  
kings



kings early in the morning at a place then called Launden, but afterwards, from this burial, *Treckingham*, four of their kings and eight counts marched out, whilst two kings and four counts guarded the camp and captives. But the Christians, because of the smallness of their number, drawing themselves up in one body, made, with their shields, a strong *testudo* against the force of their enemies' arrows, and kept off the horse with their pikes. And thus being well ordered by their commanders, they kept the ground all day. But night coming on, notwithstanding till then they had remained unbroken, and had withstood the force of their enemies arrows, whose horses being tired, began to flag; yet they very imprudently left an entire victory to the Pagans: for the Pagans feigning a flight, began to quit the field, which the Christians had no sooner perceived, (however their commanders forbade and opposed it,) than they broke their ranks, and, pursuing the Pagans, were all dispersed through the plain without any order or command; so that the Pagans returning like lions among a flock of sheep, made a most prodigious slaughter."

The Christian combatants being thus completely conquered, and nearly annihilated, a few youths of Gedney and Sutton contrived to escape to Croyland, where their afflicting news created much alarm and distress. The terrified monks, expecting an immediate attack from the sanguinary conquerors, instantly employed themselves in secreting and securing their sacred relics and valuables, some of which were thrown into the well, and some committed to the care of the youthful class of their community, who were impelled to seek self preservation in flight. Thus prepared, the old monks devoted themselves to prayer, from which they were roused by the flames of the neighbouring villages; and the clamours of the fierce Pagans drew nearer. The abbot, and they who were too young or too old to fly, assembled in the holy choir, hoping there to secure life; but the desperadoes rushed into the sacred place, and, with savage exultation, embrued their swords in the bodies of the unresisting victims.

Every

Every part of the sanctified building was stained with blood; and by the statement of Ingulphus, it appears that only one youth was preserved from the general massacre. The spoilers broke down all the tombs and monuments, with the avaricious hope of discovering treasures; and on the third day, they committed the whole monastic buildings to the flames. With immense plunder, of cattle, &c. the barbarians marched the next day to Mederhamsted, or Peterborough, where they committed similar atrocities and barbarities; and it is related that the monastery continued fifteen days in flames.

Though the horrible proceedings of the Danish marauders were so truly calamitous in their immediate operations; and though language can only depict their repeated exploits, in the terms of plunder, murder, rape, famine, and distress; yet these were the harbingers of national improvement and amelioration. The petty, jealous, and opposing kingdoms of the Anglo-Saxons, were compelled to confederate for mutual defence; a consolidation of the different states arose, and during the greatest distraction of the realms, that amiable man, wise monarch, and skilful general, *Alfred*, was sent as a guardian angel to the country. He employed the energies of intellect to repel invasion, to discomfit the public and private enemies of the island, and to administer comfort to the distressed by wise and appropriate laws. After his firm establishment on the throne, the nation assumed a new aspect; and after that felicitous event, its annals became more clear and enlightened. "The sovereignty of Mercia, on the defeat of the Danes, fell into the power of Alfred. He did not, however, avowedly incorporate it with Wessex. He discontinued its regal honors, and constituted Ethelred its military commander, to whom he afterwards married his daughter, *Ethelfleda*, when her age permitted\*." This lady continued the command of Mercia after Alfred's, and her husband's decease; and during the reign of Edward the Elder, it was found necessary to construct and fortify several places on the borders of Mercia joining Northumbria, particularly

\* Turner's "History of the Anglo-Saxons," Vol. I. p. 267. 4to. 1807.



particularly on the banks of the Humber. On Ethelfleda's death, Mercia was incorporated with Wessex; but some places were still held by the Danes. Among these were the towns of Stamford and Lincoln, even so late as 941, when Edmund the Elder expelled them hence.

The transactions of the Church and See constitute the principal subjects of historical narrative respecting this county, 'till the conquest and subjugation of England by William of Normandy. Innovations of every kind were now introduced; and the whole property of Lincolnshire was distributed among his favorite followers. The authors of the *Magna Britannia*, give the following list of names and manors from the Domesday book. "To *Alan Rufus*, Earl of Britain and Richmond, he gave 101 lordships. *Odo*, Bishop of Bayeux and Earl of Kent, 76. *Walthrof*, Earl of Northumberland, 2. *Judith*, Countess of Northumberland, 17. *Robert Vesci*, 7. *William Mallet*, 1. *Nigil de Albin*, 12. *Robert de Stafford*, 20. *William de Percy*, 32. *Walter D'Eincourt*, 17. *Guy de Creon*, or *Crown*, 61. *Geisfrid Hanselin*, 15. *Ranulph de St. Valery*, 6. *William le Blound*, or *Blunt*, 6. *Robert de Toden*, 32. *Ralph de Mortimer*, 7. *Henry de Ferrers*, 2. *Norman D'Arcil*, 2. *Alured de Lincoln*, 51. *Walter Bec*, 1. *Ralph Paganel*, 15. *Ernisius Burun*, 28. *Gilbert de Gondoro*, or *Gaunt*, grandson of Baldwin Earl of Flanders, 113." It will not be an easy task to specify the respective lordships thus distributed; and indeed it will be extremely difficult to identify the places where each of those Barons erected their castles, and established their habitations, &c.

*Castles, Encampments, &c.* The Maritime counties of England being more directly exposed to attack from invading armies and piratical plunderers; and in the early periods of our civil establishments, being more populous than the midland country, were, therefore, frequently exposed to the conflicts of warfare; and hence it is found, that these districts abound with military works and castles, or castellated mansions. Besides the permanent

ment stations of the Romans in Lincolnshire, they threw up castametations in different places; to guard the vallies, protect their great roads, and defend the mouths of the rivers. In the continued wars between the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, these were again occupied by those people; and, after the Norman conquest, some of the most commanding were adopted by the conqueror's captains, and barons, and then became heads of extensive lordships. To describe or discriminate them, is, and ever will be impossible, for documents are wanting, and the innovations of the latter occupiers generally obscured, or annihilated all traces of their predecessors. Exclusive of the Roman stations, I find notices of the following fortifications, &c.

ENCAMPMENTS at, or near, Brocklesby; Hibberston; Broughton; Roxby; Winterton Cliffs; Aulkborough; Yarborough; South Ormsby; Burwell; Stamford; Castle-Hill, near Gainsborough; Winterringham; Humington; Ingoldsby; Castle Carleton; Burgh; Brough, north of Caston; Barrow.

CASTLES, or remains of Castles: at Horncastle; Tattershall, a noble remain; Bourne, only earthworks remaining; Castor; Somerton; Moor Tower; Stamford; Scrivelby; Torksey, a fine remain; Sleaford, only earthworks; Bollingbrook; Lincoln, with walls and gates; Folkingham, with large fosses; Kyme Tower and Hussey Tower, near Boston; Pinchbeck, a moated mansion; Bitham.

DIOCESS and SEE of LINCOLN. According to the testimony of the best authorities, the Bishop's See was established at Lincoln in the year 1057, or 1088\*, previous to which era, the diocese consisted of the two Anglo-Saxon Sees of *Dorchester*†, now a village

\* The exact year of the translation is not satisfactorily specified. Most writers adopt the latter date; but Beatson, in his "Political Index," states that the see was removed to Lincoln in 1057.

† This See was founded about the year 625, and had eleven bishops, whose names and times of installation are—I. *Birinus*, 625; II. *Agilburtus*, 650;



village in Oxfordshire, and *Sidnacester*\*, a place bordering on the river Trent. This diocess is the largest in the whole kingdom, notwithstanding those of Oxford, Peterborough, and Ely, have been detached and taken from it. It comprehends the counties of Lincoln, Leicester, Huntingdon, Bedford, and Buckingham, except the Parishes of Monks Risborough and Halton, which are peculiars of Canterbury; and Abbots Aston and Winslow, (which, with fifteen other parishes that are in Hertfordshire, and were taken hence, being made of exempt jurisdiction, and appropriated to the Abbey of St. Albans, became, on the dissolution of that monastery in the year 1541, part of the Diocess of London). The See of Lincoln also still retains the better half of Hertfordshire, and the Parishes of Banbury, Tame, Milton, Croperdy, Horley, and Hornton, in the county of Oxford; Langford, in Berks and Oxfordshire; Empingham, Lidlington, and Ketton, in Rutlandshire; King's Sutton, Gretton, and Nassington, in Northamptonshire; and the chapelries of Wigtoft and Hyde, in the county of Warwick, though the last chapel, Hyde, is desecrated. All which are subdivided, and under the immediate jurisdiction of these six ARCHDEACONRIES: I. *Lincoln*, which is divided into the

## DEANERIES

III. *Totta*, who was the first Bishop of Leicester, 737; IV. *Elbertus*, 764; V. *Umeona*, 786; VI. *Werinburtus*, 801; VII. *Rethunus*, 814; VIII. *Aldredus*, 861; IX. *Ceobredus*, 873; X. *Harlardus*, .....; XI. *Ceolusus*, or *Kenulphus*, 905.

\* This See was established in 678, and, according to Bede, was in, and paramount over the province of Lindsey. Its first bishop was *Eadhedus*, who was consecrated by Paulinus in 678. His successors were the following: II. *Ethelwinus*, 678; III. *Edgarus*, 701; IV. *Kinelbertus*, or *Embertus*, 720; V. *Alueigh*, 733; VI. *Eadulphus* I. 751; VII. *Ceolufus*, 767; VIII. *Umeona*, 783; IX. *Eadulphus* II. 789. After his death the See remained long vacant, and was occupied by the Xth Bishop *Lenfwinus* in 949, when the See of Dorchester was transferred to, and united with this. XI. *Aailnoth*, 960; XII. *Assewinus*, or *Oesewynus*, 967; XIII. *Alshelmus*, 994; XIV. *Eadnothus* I. 1004; XV. *Eadhericus*, 1016; XVI. *Eadnothus* II. 1034; XVII. *Ulfus Normanus*, 1052; XVIII. *Wulfinus*, 1052. After the death of this Bishop, his successor *St. Remigius*, removed the See to Lincoln.

DEANERIES of Lincoln, Aswardburn cum Lafford, Aviland, Bel-tislaw, Bollingbrook, Candleshoe, Calcewaith, Gartree, Grantham, Graffoe, Grimsby Hill, Horncastle, Longobovey, Loveden, Lowth cum Ludbrook, Nesse, Stamford, Walscroft, Wraghoe, Yarburgh, all in the county of Lincoln. II. *Stow*, which has the Deaneries of Aslacko, Coringham, Lawres, and Manlake, all likewise in the same county. III. *Leicester*, the Deaneries of which are Leicester, Ackley, Framland, Gartree, Goscote, Guthlaxton, and Sparkenhoe, all in the county of Leicester. IV. *Bedford*, which has Bedford, Clopham, Dunstable, Eaton, Fleet, and Shefford, all in Bedfordshire. V. *Huntingdon*, which has Huntingdon, St. Ives, Leightonstone, St. Neots, and Yaxley, all in the county of Huntingdon. With Baldock, Berkhamstead, Hertford, and Hitchin, in Hertfordshire. VI. *Buckingham*, the Deaneries of which are Buckingham, Burnham, Mursley, Newport, Waddesden, Wendover, and Wycombe, all in the county of Buckingham. In all which, and the out-lying parishes in Oxon, Northampton, Rutland, &c. The number of parishes contained in this diocese (which yet continues by far the largest in England) is stated by Browne Willis to be, including donatives and chapels, 1517; and the clergy's yearly tenths in this very extensive jurisdiction 1751l. 14s. 6d. "The revenues of this bishopric were valued at the dissolution of the monasteries at 2065l. 12s. 6d. and the common revenues of the chapter at 578l. 8s. 2d. But many of its manors being seized, it is now only rated in the king's books at 894l. 10s. 1d. and computed to be worth 3200l. The clergy's tenth is valued at 1751l. 14s. 6d. \*" This see has given to the Romish church *three saints*, and one cardinal. From its prelates have been selected six lord chancellors, one lord treasurer, one lord keeper, four chancellors to the University of Oxford, and two to Cambridge.

Willis computes the number of parishes in this diocese at 1517, of which 577 are impropriated. Camden says there are 630 parishes in the county.

Connected

\* Beatson's Political Index. In the Red Book, the revenue of the Bishopric is set down at 828l. 4s. 9d. but in this the Bishop's tenths, of 66l. 13s. 4d. are not included.



Connected with the cathedral, and its ecclesiastical establishment, were the MONASTERIES, HOSPITALS, &c. which were very numerous, and some of great influence, in this extensive district. In the following list I have endeavoured to furnish the reader with the names and denominations of the whole at one view. A further account of some of these will be given when describing the places where they are situated.

| <i>Names of Places.</i> | <i>Orders.</i>  | <i>Founded.</i> | <i>Granted to.</i>                  | <i>Near.</i>    |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Alvingham               | Gilbertine Nun. | temp. Stephen   | Ed. L. Clinton                      | _____           |
| * Aslackby              | Kn. Templars    | temp. Rich. I.  | Ditto                               | Folkingham      |
| * Bardney               | Benedictine A.  | temp. W. Con.   | Sir Ro. Tirwhit                     | Horncastle      |
| * Barlings              | Premonstra. A.  | — 1154          | Ch. D. of Suffolk                   | Lincoln         |
| Long Bennington         | Cist. P.        | — 1175          | Dean & Ch. West.                    | Boston          |
| Bondeby                 | Alien P.        | temp. John      | _____                               | _____           |
| BOSTON                  | 1 Hospital      | temp. Edw. I.   | _____                               | _____           |
| _____                   | 2 Austin Friars | — Edw. II.      | Mayor, &c. of Town                  | _____           |
| _____                   | 3 Black Friars  | ante 1288       | Ch. Du. Suffolk                     | _____           |
| _____                   | 4 Grey Friars   | _____           | Mayor, &c.                          | _____           |
| _____                   | 5 White Friars  | circa 1300      | Ditto                               | _____           |
| Bourne                  | Austin Canons   | — 1138          | Rich. Cotton                        | _____           |
| * Temple Bruer          | Templars        | ante 1185       | Ch. D. Suffolk                      | Sleaford        |
| Bullington              | Gilber. P.      | temp. Stephen   | Ditto                               | Lincoln         |
| Burwell                 | Bened. P.       | _____           | Ditto                               | _____           |
| Cameringham             | Premons. P.     | temp. Hen. II.  | Rob. Tirwhit                        | _____           |
| Catley                  | Gilber. P.      | temp. Stephen   | Rob. Carr                           | Hather          |
| Cotham                  | Cister. N.      | — Stephen       | Ed. Skipwith                        | Grimsby         |
| Covenham                | Bened. P.       | circa 1082      | Wm. Skipwith                        | Louth           |
| * Croyland              | Bened. A.       | — 716           | Ed. Ld. Clinton                     | Peterborough    |
| Deeping                 | Bened. Cel.     | — 1139          | Th. Du. Norfolk                     | _____           |
| Egle                    | Templars        | temp. Stephen   | Th. El. Rutland }<br>Rob. Tirwhit } | _____           |
| Elsham                  | Austin Canons   | ante 1166       | Ch. Du. Suffolk                     | Glanford Brigg  |
| Epworth                 | Carthus. P.     | temp. Ric. II.  | John Candlish                       | Isle of Axholme |
| Fosse                   | Bened. N.       | temp. Hen. III. | Ed. Ld. Clinton                     | Torksey         |
| Freston                 | Bened. Cel.     | temp. Stephen   | _____                               | Boston          |
| Glanford Brigg          | Hospital        | temp. John      | _____                               | _____           |
| Gokwell                 | Cister. N.      | ante 1185       | Sir W. Tirwhit                      | Barton          |

\* Where the Asterisk is affixed, implies that some of the buildings remain.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

557

| <i>Names of Places.</i>     | <i>Orders.</i>                              | <i>Founded.</i> | <i>Granted to.</i>                  | <i>Near.</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| GRANTHAM                    | Grey Friars                                 | ante 1290       | Rob. Bocher and<br>Dav. Vincent     | at Grantham  |
| Greenfield                  | Cister. N.                                  | — 1153          | Ch. Du. Suffolk                     | Alford       |
| * Goxhill                   | — P.                                        | —               | —                                   | Barton       |
| GRIMSBY                     | Bened. N.                                   | ante 1185       | D. Chap. Westm.                     | Barton       |
| Hagh                        | Alien P.                                    | circa 1164      | John Ld. Russel                     | Loveden      |
| Hagham                      | Alien P.                                    | temp. Ric. II.  | J. Bellow. J.<br>Broxholm           | —            |
| Hagneby                     | Premonst. A.                                | — 1175          | John Freeman                        | Bolingbroke  |
| Haverholme                  | Gilbert. P.                                 | — 1137          | Ed. Ld. Clinton                     | Sleaford     |
| Hevening                    | Cistercian N.                               | circa 1180      | Sir Tho. Henneage                   | Gainsborough |
| HOLBEACH                    | Hospital                                    | circa 1351      | —                                   | at Holbeach  |
| Holland Brigg               | Gilbert. P.                                 | temp. John      | Ed. Ld. Clinton                     | —            |
| Humberston                  | Bened. A.                                   | temp. Hen. II.  | John Cheke, Esq.                    | Grimsby      |
| Innocents, St.              | Hospital                                    | temp. Hen. I.   | —                                   | Lincoln      |
| Irford                      | Premonstr. N.                               | temp. Hen. II.  | Rob. Tirwhit                        | M. Rasin     |
| * Kirksted                  | Cistercian A.                               | — 1139          | Cha. Du. Suffolk                    | Tattershall  |
| Kyme                        | Austin Canons                               | temp. Hen. II.  | Tho. Ea. Rutland<br>and Ro. Tirwhit | Sleaford     |
| Legborn                     | Cistercian N.                               | ante John       | Tho. Henneage                       | Louth        |
| LINCOLN                     | Nunnery                                     | anteConquest    | —                                   | —            |
| —                           | * Cathedral                                 | Bp. Remegius    | —                                   | —            |
| —                           | Gilb. Priory                                | — 1148          | Cha. Du. Suffolk                    | —            |
| —                           | Benedic. Cell                               | —               | J. Bellow and J.<br>Broxholm        | —            |
| —                           | College                                     | — 1355          | —                                   | —            |
| —                           | Five Hospitals                              | —               | —                                   | —            |
| —                           | Five Orders of<br>Friars had<br>houses here | —               | —                                   | —            |
| * LOUTH Park                | Cistercian A.                               | — 1159          | Sir Hen. Stanley                    | at Louth     |
| Markby                      | Black Can. P.                               | —               | Cha. Du. Suffolk                    | Louth        |
| Maltby                      | Austin Can. P.                              | —               | Ditto                               | Louth        |
| Mere                        | K. Templars                                 | —               | —                                   | Lincoln      |
| Newbo                       | Premons. A.                                 | — 1198          | Sir John Markham                    | Grantham     |
| Newsham                     | Gilb. P.                                    | temp. Hen. II.  | —                                   | Brocklesby   |
| Newhouse                    | Premon. A.                                  | — 1143          | Ch. Du. Suffolk                     | —            |
| Newsted-in-<br>Axholme      | Gilb. Priory                                | Hen. II.        | Rob. Henneage                       | Burton       |
| Newsted-jux-<br>ta Stamford | Aust. Can. P.                               | Hen. III.       | Rich. Manours                       | Stamford     |



| <i>Names of Places.</i> | <i>Orders.</i>              | <i>Founded.</i> | <i>Granted to.</i>             | <i>Now.</i>   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Nocton                  | Ang. Can. P.                | temp. Stephen   | Ch. Du. Suffolk                | Lincoln       |
| North Ormesby           | Gilbertine A.               | temp. Stephen   | Ro. Hennege                    | Louth         |
| Revesby                 | Cist. A.                    | — 1142          | Ch. Du. Suffolk                | Spilsby       |
| * Sempington            | Gilb. P.                    | — 1139          | Ed. Ld. Clinton                | Folkingham    |
| Sixhill                 | Gilb. P.                    | temp. Stephen   | Sir T. Hennege                 | Rain          |
| Skirbeck                | Hospital                    | — 1230          | Ch. Du. Suffolk                | Boston        |
| SPALDING                | Benedic. A.                 | — 1052          | Sir John Croke                 | at Spalding   |
| SPILSBY                 | College                     | —               | Duch. Suffolk                  | at Spital     |
| * Spital                | Hospital                    | Ant. Edw. II.   | D. Chap. Lincoln               | Holmeswell    |
| Stanfield               | Ben. N.                     | Hen. II.        | Rob. Thirwhit                  | Lincoln       |
| STAMFORD                | 1 Ben. Cell                 | Hen. II.        | Rich. Cecil                    | —             |
| —                       | 2 Ben. P.                   | —               | Will. Cecil                    | —             |
| —                       | * 3 Gilb. P.                | 20 Ed. I.       | —                              | —             |
| —                       | * 4 Hospital                | — 1494          | —                              | —             |
| —                       | 5 Hospital                  | temp. Hen. II.  | —                              | —             |
| —                       | 6 Lazar Ho.                 | —               | —                              | —             |
| —                       | 7 Aurt. Fri. P.             | — 1240          | Ed. Ld. Clinton                | —             |
| —                       | 8 Black Fr. Con.            | — 1240          | Rob. Becherand<br>Dav. Vincent | —             |
| —                       | 9 Grey Fr. Ho.              | 48 Ed. II.      | Ch. Du. Suffolk                | —             |
| —                       | 10 White Fr. Ho. by Edw. I. | —               | —                              | —             |
| —                       | 11 White Mo. A.             | —               | —                              | —             |
| —                       | 12 Canons P.                | —               | —                              | —             |
| —                       | 13 Hospital                 | cir. 9 John     | —                              | —             |
| Stow                    | Mon. of Ben.                | ab. 1040        | —                              | at Stow       |
| Stikeswold              | Cis. Nun.                   | temp. Stephen   | Rob. Dighton                   | Horncastle    |
| * Swinehead             | Cist. A.                    | — 1134          | Ed. Ld. Clinton                | Boston        |
| * TATTERSHAL            | College                     | 17 Hen. VI.     | Ch. Du. Suffolk                | at Tattershal |
| Thornton                | Aus. Can.                   | — 1139          | —                              | Barton        |
| —                       | * College                   | 33 Hen. VIII.   | Bp. of Lincoln                 | Barton        |
| * Thornhofm             | Aus. Can. P.                | King Step.      | Ch. Du. Suffolk                | Brigg         |
| Torksey                 | Aus. Can. P.                | —               | Sir Ph. Hobby                  | Stow          |
| Tunstal                 | Gilb. N.                    | tem. Step.      | —                              | Redboara      |
| * Tupholm               | Prem. A.                    | temp. Hen. II.  | Sir Tho. Hennege               | Kirksted      |
| Vaudey                  | Cist. A.                    | — 1147          | Ch. Du. Suffolk                | Edenham       |
| Wellow                  | Aus. Can. A.                | Hen. I.         | Sir Tho. Hennege               | Grimby        |
| Wenghale                | Alien P.                    | —               | Tin. Coll. Cam.                | S. Keley      |
| Wilsford                | Alien P.                    | temp. Stephen   | Ch. Du. Suffolk                | Grantham      |
| Witham                  | Prec. Templars              | — 1164          | Stephèn Holford                | —             |
| Belleau                 | — A.                        | —               | —                              | Louth         |

The ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHITECTURE of LINCOLNSHIRE has long been justly celebrated for its magnificence, and the numerous churches in the county have been repeatedly spoken of in terms of admiration. It is not unworthy of remark, that the most splendid edifices which adorn this district, were erected chiefly in its lowest and most fenny situations, where all communication must formerly have been, and even to this day is, extremely difficult. It will, perhaps, be no easy task to assign a reason why our ancestors, in the erection of their churches, many of them of large dimensions and splendid in their decorations, should prefer such a tract of country to the higher and more frequented districts. The vicinity to the sea, and the numerous surrounding drains, might indeed have afforded a convenient conveyance for the materials which were not the produce of the county. Though the beauties of nature are scattered with a very sparing hand over Lincolnshire; the fruitfulness and richness of its soil, make ample recompense for this deficiency; and its internal wealth, which is asserted at the present time to equal that of the most extensive counties in England, might have enabled its inhabitants to have supplied its natural defects, by erecting buildings and works of art, which still display an extraordinary magnificence, equal, if not generally superior, to those of any county in the kingdom.

The ecclesiastical edifices in the *division of Lindsey*, excepting the cathedral of Lincoln, are in general inferior to those in Kesteven and Holland; but in the north eastern part of the division, which is bounded by the German ocean to the east, and the high lands called the Wolds to the west, which is a low, flat tract of country, there are several churches, displaying much elegance in their architecture, and built of excellent materials. In many of these are some ancient brasses, and other memorials of families who, three or four centuries past, were resident here, and many of whose descendants, from their possessions, still constitute the principle family interest of the county. The churches in this district vary but little, as to their form and



character; having in common, a body with north and south aisles, supporting a range of windows, also a south porch, a chancel, and tower at the western end. Those of Grimsby and Wainfleet, which are the only deviations from this plan, are cruciform. The date of them may be generally assigned from the time of Edward III. to that of Henry VII. though some display features of an earlier erection in the remains of arches, circular pillars, and other ornaments. A considerable number have been rebuilt, not only on confined dimensions, but with inferior materials. On the high lands, or Wolds, the churches have no claim to architectural beauty, many of them consisting merely of a body and chancel.

In the south part of the Wolds, the churches and other edifices are built with a soft and green coloured sand-stone, which is plentifully supplied from the neighbouring hills: the battlements, buttresses, copings, and more ornamental parts of the structure being formed of a harder and more firm material. This sand-stone, which never loses its soft and porous quality, gradually wastes away: and the deficiency being filled up with modern brick-work, the repairs present a motley and disgusting appearance. The churches of Spilsby, Bolingbroke, and Horncastle, with the remains of the castles at the two latter places, and the surrounding village churches, were, for the most part, erected with this sand-stone. In the western part of Lindsey the churches may be said to preserve a middle character: a considerable number possess much architectural beauty, and some of them display portions of very old architecture.

The *Division of Kesteven* abounds with churches splendid both in their plans and decorations. In the central part, the greater proportion of them are adorned with lofty spires; while many of those in the northern and southern extremities present handsome towers. The churches of Sleaford, Leasingham, Heckington, Threckingham, Horbling, Grantham, with St. Mary's, St. John's, and All Saints, in Stamford, may be particularly mentioned as excellent specimens of ancient English architecture; and, by their height, form prominent objects from different stations

in

in the county. Those of Kesteven differ little from each other in their general plan: the spires, which are lofty, are octagonal, lighted by three tiers of canopied windows, and rising from noble towers at the west end of the building. The towers are frequently divided into three or four distinct stories, and formed of excellent materials and masonry. The date of the churches in this division, with the exception of those of Sempringham and St. Leonard, Stamford, is, in few instances, earlier than the thirteenth century; and, scarcely any having been rebuilt, few will be found of later date than the time of Henry the Seventh.

It is principally in the *Division of Holland*, that Lincolnshire boasts superior excellence in ecclesiastical architecture; and it is really surprising that so many fine monastic buildings, and sacred edifices, should have been erected in a county so inconvenient for travelling, so unpleasant to the eye, and uncongenial with the common comforts of life. Yet, in this fenny, and swampy district, are the churches of Boston, Gosberton, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Holbeach, Gedney, Long-Sutton, Croyland, and many others, which have a just claim to universal admiration. To the munificence of the abbies of Croyland and Spalding, the greater part of the churches which adorn the southern part of this division probably owe their origin. At the period when most of them were erected, Holland was one extensive fen, accessible in many parts only by water, and at particular seasons overflowed from the surrounding drains and marshes. Under these circumstances, the architects of those days were compelled to make artificial foundations, by laying piles or planks of wood, or different strata of earth and gravel, previous to the superstructure of brick or stone. The skill of our ancestors in building on such a precarious soil is strikingly apparent: few of their churches have swerved from their perpendicular; and a firmness and solidity are retained which the peculiar nature of the ground would hardly seem to admit.

The character and plan of the churches in this division vary in different parts. Some are cruciform; many have spires in common with those of Kesteven; while embattled towers at the



west end form the principal feature of the remainder. Of the splendid church at Croyland, only a small portion of the original structure now remains; but sufficient to shew that in its entire state, it was not inferior to any of our cathedrals, either in size or architectural ornament.

The church of Long Sutton is perhaps the earliest specimen of architecture which this division affords, and may be characterised by calling it the counterpart of the cathedral of Christ Church, at Oxford, both in the ornaments of the tower and of the internal decorations.

The churches of Boston, Gosberton, Pinchbeck, Holbeach, Gedney, and several others, afford excellent specimens of the architecture of the fourteenth century. The division of Holland has few churches of a later date than the time of Edward III.

The stone employed in the erection of the edifices of this district is universally found to be of an excellent and durable species, still retaining at the distance, in many instances, of six or seven centuries, its original face and firmness. The churches of *Stow*, *Clee*, *Crowle*, *Washingborough*, *Fiskerton*, *St. Peter at Gowt*, *Lincoln*, and a few others in the county, present various specimens, and parts of very early architecture, some of which I should not hesitate to refer to an Anglo-Saxon period.

SEATS, &c. This county is more noted for its religious than for its civil architecture. Though an extensive district, it contains but few mansions of consequence, grandeur, or elegance, and those that are standing are chiefly of modern erection. In making the following list, I have endeavoured to ascertain the names and situations, with that of the proprietors, of all the seats in the county. These are arranged according to precedence of rank, and to each name is added the title derived by the nobility from places in the county.

GRIMSTHORPE CASTLE, near Corby. Duke of Ancaster and Kesteven; also, Marquis and Earl of Lindsey.—This nobleman

man has other family seats or manors at Uffington and Swineshead in this county.

BELVOIR CASTLE, near Grantham. Duke of Rutland, who possesses several manors in Lincolnshire. The seat is in the county of Leicester, and has been described in a preceding part of this volume.

NOCTON, near Lincoln. Earl of Buckinghamshire.

GLENTWORTH, near Spittal. Earl of Scarborough.

BROCKLESBY, near Brigg. Lord Yarborough, who has another seat at Thurgunby.

BELTON, near Grantham. Lord Brownlow.

REDBOURN, near Brigg. Lord William Beauclerk.

BURTON, near Lincoln. Lord Monson.

DODDINGTON, near Lincoln. Lord Deval.

BLOXHOLM, near Sleaford. The Honourable Colonel Manners.

MANBY, near Brigg. Honourable Charles Anderson Pelham.

ASWARBY, near Folkingham. Sir Thomas Whichcote, Bart.

CASWICK, near Stamford. Sir John Trollope, Bart.

DENTON HOUSE, near Grantham. Sir William Earl Welby, Bart.

HARRINGTON HALL, near Spilsby. Lady Ingleby Amcotts, who has another seat at Kettlethorpe near Lincoln.

EASTON, near Grantham. Sir Montague Cholmondeley.

SUMMER CASTLE, near Spittal. Lady Wray.

HANBY HALL, near Folkingham. Sir William Manners, Bart.

HAVERHOLME-PRIORY, near Sleaford. Sir Jenison Gordon, Bart.

NORMANBY HALL, near Burton. Sir John Sheffield, Bart.

REVESBY ABBEY, near Boston. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart.

STUBTON, near Newark. Sir Robert Heron, Bart.

SYSTON, near Grantham. Sir John Thorold, Bart.

SCAWLEY, near Brigg. Sir Henry Nelthorpe, Bart.

ASHBY, near Sleaford. Neville King, Esq.

BLANKNEY, near Lincoln. Charles Chaplin, Esq. M. P. for the county.



- BARROW, near Barton. George Uppleby, Esq.  
 BOUTHORPE PARK, near Bourn. Philip Duncombe Pauncefort, Esq.  
 BRANSTON, near Lincoln. Formerly belonged to the Wrays, now belongs to the Earl of Buckinghamshire.  
 BURWELL PARK, near Louth. Matthew Bancroft Lister, Esq.  
 CANWICK, near Lincoln. Colonel Siphthorpe.  
 COLEBY HALL, near Lincoln. General Bertie.  
 CROXTON PARK, near Grantham. Right Hon. Spencer Percival.  
 ELSHAM, near Brigg. ——— Corbett, Esq.  
 FANTHORPE, near Louth.  
 FULBECK, near Sleaford. Colonel Fane.  
 GERSBY, near Louth. George Lister, Esq.  
 GUNBY HALL, near Wainfleet. W. B. Massingberd, Esq.  
 GATE BURTON, near Gainsborough. William Hutton, Esq.  
 GANTBY, near Horncastle. Robert Vyner, Esq.  
 GOLTHO, near Wragby. Charles Manwaring, Esq.  
 GRIMSBY LITTLE, near Louth. J. Nelthorpe, Esq.  
 HARMSTON, near Lincoln. Samuel Thorold, Esq.  
 HAINTON PARK, near Wragby. G. R. Henneage, Esq.  
 HURST PRIORY, Isle of Axholme. Cornelius Stovin, Esq.  
 HARLAXTON MANOR HOUSE, near Grantham. George de Legne Gregory, Esq.  
 HACKTHORNE, near Lincoln. John Cracroft, Esq.  
 HAYDER LODGE, near Grantham.  
 HOLLYWELL, near Stamford. Jacob Reynardson, Esq.  
 IRNHAM, near Grimsthorpe. Arundel Family.  
 KNAITH, near Gainsborough. Henry Dalton, Esq.  
 LANGTON HALL, near Spilsby. George Langton, Esq.  
 LEADENHAM, near Grantham. William Reeve, Esq.  
 NORTON PLACE, near Spittal. John Harrison, Esq.  
 ORMSBY, SOUTH, near Spilsby. C. B. Massingberd, Esq.  
 OWSTON PLACE, Isle of Axholme. Jervace Woodhouse, Esq.  
 PAUNTON, LITTLE, near Grantham. William Pennyman, Esq.  
 PANTON HOUSE, near Wragby. Edmund Turnor, Esq.

RISEMOLME,

- RISEHOLME, near Lincoln. Francis Chaplin, Esq.  
 SCRIVELSBY, near Horncastle. The Honourable Champion  
 Dymocke, Esq.  
 SOMERBY, near Brigg. ——— Weston, Esq.  
 SOMERBY PARK, near Gainsborough. An old seat of the  
 Seaforth Family—now John Beckwith, Esq.  
 STOKE ROCHFORD, near Grantham. Edmund Turnor, Esq.  
 SWINHOP, near Castor on the Wolds. The Rev. Marmeluke  
 Alington.  
 SUBBROOKE HOLME, near Lincoln. Richard Ellison, Esq.  
 M. P.  
 STAINFIELD, near Barling's Abbey. Tyrwhit Family.  
 TATHWELL, near Louth. C. Chaplin, Esq. M. P.  
 TEMPLE BELLWOOD, Isle of Axholme. William Johnson, Esq.  
 THORESBY, South, near Alford. W. Wood, Esq.  
 TEALBY COTTAGE, near Rasin. George Tennyson, Esq.  
 THONOCK, near Gainsborough. Mrs. Hickman.  
 THORPHALL, near Louth. Captain Birch.  
 UFFINGTON, near Stamford.  
 WELL VALE, near Alford. ——— Dashwood, Esq.  
 WELLINGORE, near Lincoln. Christopher Neville, Esq.  
 WALCOT, near Winterton. Thomas Golton, Esq.  
 WILLINGHAM HOUSE, near Rasin. Ayscough Boucherett, Esq.  
 WOTTON, near Barton. John Appleby, Esq.

GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES, NATURAL CHARACTERIS-  
 TICS, and AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES. This county, as  
 well as those of Essex, Cambridge, and Norfolk, have been  
 generally described, as particularly unfavourable to human health-  
 fulness; and from their contiguity to the sea, with the numer-  
 ous fens, meres, brooks, &c. with which they abound, are com-  
 monly stigmatized as producing pestilential climates, unfit for  
 human habitation, or only calculated to excite agues, cramps,  
 and endless rheumatisms. These general maxims, though often  
 originating in just and appropriate facts, are too commonly per-  
 verted,



verted, or extended beyond all due bounds. Thus it happens, that a county, or a whole country, obtains a sort of provincial character, which originally applied perhaps only to a small district, or which, from natural or artificial improvements, has been rendered nugatory. Lincolnshire may be said to be in this predicament; for its name is very commonly associated with fens, agues, flatness, and bogs. Those who reside in, or have travelled over it, are enabled to appreciate and define its characteristics: and this is the duty of the impartial topographer.

Arthur Young has pointed out and described many features and places in the county, that may be referred to as partaking of the beautiful and picturesque: "About Belton," says he, "are fine Views from the tower on Belmont; Lynn and the Norfolk Cliffs are visible, Nottingham Castle, the Vale of Belvoir, &c. And in going by the cliff towns to Lincoln there are many fine views. From Fullbeck to Leadenham, especially at the latter place, there is a most rich prospect over the vale of the Trent to the distant lands that bound it. These views, over an extensive vale, are striking, and of the same features are those from the cliff-road to the north of Lincoln, to Kirton, where is a great view both east and west to the wolds, and also to Nottinghamshire. Near Gainsborough there are very agreeable scenes; from the plantation of H. Dalton of Knaith, and from the chateau battery of Mr. Hutton of Burton, the view of the windings of the Trent, and the rich level plain of meadow, all alive with great herds of cattle, bounded by distant hills of cultivation, are features of an agreeable county. But still more beautiful is that about Trent-fall; from Sir John Sheffield's hanging wood, and the Rev. Mr. Sheffield's ornamented walk, following the cliff to Alkborough, where Mr. Goulton's beautiful grounds command a great view of the three rivers; as the soil is dry, the woods lofty, and the county various, this must be esteemed a noble scenery, and a perfect contrast to what Lincolnshire is often represented, by those who have only seen the parts of it that are very different. The whole line of the Humber hence to Grimsby, when viewed from

from the higher wolds presents an object that must be interesting to all. This, with the very great plantation of Lord Yarborough, are seen to much advantage, from that most beautiful building the Mausoleum at Brocklesby\*." Many other places and parts of the county might be pointed out as presenting in themselves, or commanding, interesting scenery. The country around Grantham, also in the vicinity of Louth, and that more particularly between Bourn and the former place, including the noble and very spacious woods of Grimsthorpe, abounds with that inequality of surface, that diversified interchange of hill and dale, wood and lawn, which constitute the picturesque and beautiful in natural scenery.

Lincolnshire is a large county, and occupies an area, according to the best authorities, of about 2,814 square statute miles, or 1,800,880 statute acres. Arthur Young makes the total different; but it must be observed, that for want of a good survey of the county, we cannot come to any satisfactory conclusion on this head. That gentleman divides and estimates the contents of the county in the following manner:

|                     | Acres.    |
|---------------------|-----------|
| The Wolds .....     | 234,880   |
| The Heath .....     | 178,400   |
| Lowland .....       | 776,960   |
| Miscellaneous ..... | 718,880   |
| Total.....          | 1,848,320 |

Mr. Stone, in his agricultural survey of the county, gives the following statement respecting the extent and division of Lincolnshire. The whole number of acres 1,893,100; of which he conjectures there may be 473,000 acres of inclosed, marsh, and fen lands, 200,000 of commons, wastes, and unembanked salt marshes, 268,000 of common fields, 25,000 of woodlands, and 927,120 of inclosed upland.

Lincolnshire

\* General View, &c. p. 3.



wards the north part of the county, Humber it contracts to a mere strip

The Heaths, north and south of calcareous hills, which, from their views over the lower region. They are equally discriminated, either by fertility

"The Heath, now nearly enclosed, is a sort of back-bone to the whole, in a heavy loam, but with clay enough in it to be tenacious under bad management; but the land, on a bed of limestones, at various depths, commonly nine inches, slopes sharply to the west; the declivity is generally good; and this extends some miles from the first line of villages, (built also in the same direction, north and south.) containing much pasturage \*."

Between Gainsborough and New Walsingham a large tract of flat sandy soil, though it has been enclosed and partly drained. The Acholme may be said to be among the best; it consists of black sandy loams, warm and fertile; loams of a soapy and tenacious quality. The Stacey, Belton, &c. is, in many places, a

Respecting the general products of

to tillage, and produce all sorts of grain. Some of the wolds, however, are not yet divided, but are devoted to sheep and rabbits. The lower lands, that have been drained and enclosed, produce abundant crops of oats, hemp, flax, &c.

Lincolnshire has long been famous for a fine breed of horses; but the adjoining county of York has now the credit for rearing many that are really bred in this county. In some districts there are numerous mares kept for the sole purpose of breeding. In Holland division, almost every farmer keeps some; and the number of colts reared is very great. These are chiefly of the black cart kind; and are generally sold off from the mares when quite young, and sent into the adjacent counties to be reared. At Long Sutton, and in the vicinity, according to Stone, there is a breed of horses for the saddle, remarkable for bone and activity; with the accustomed riding weight, they will trot sixteen miles an hour, and are allowed, by competent judges, to be the best saddle horses in the kingdom. "About Normanby and Burton many are bred both for saddle and coach; sell at two or three and four years old; get from eighty guineas, at four years old for a hunter, down to 7 or 8l.; a good coach horse, at four years old, 30 to 40l.\*"

Many occupiers of grass lands purchase three years old colts at the Yorkshire fairs, keep them a year, and, after trimming, nicking, &c. sell them to the London dealers at the customary prices of, from 35 to 40l. each.

Mr. Stone describes the *neat cattle* of this county as being, for the greatest part, of a large sort, having great heads and short horns; are stout in the bone, and deep in the belly; with short necks and fleshy quarters, narrow hips and chins, high in their rumps and bare on the shoulders. The *cows*, he remarks, when fat, weigh from eight to nine hundred, and the *oxen* from ten to twelve hundred each. But though this be the general breed, yet many experimental farmers, by purchase, crossing,

&c.

\* Young's Agri. Surv.



&c. are possessed of cattle of finer symmetry, and superior qualities.

Lincolnshire is not only a breeding, but a grazing county; and many farmers occupy themselves entirely in buying up full grown beasts, letting them run on rich pastures for a certain period, and then finish their feeding by oil-cake; when they are driven to Smithfield market. The *dairy* here is not regarded, further than for the use of the family; the rearing of calves, where cows are kept, is the principal object of care. These are kept till three or four years old, and then usually sold to the feeders when in a lean state. Few farms are found in the county where farmers keep cows professedly for the profit arising from butter and cheese. "It is evident, upon the whole, that the Lincoln breed of cattle, upon Lincoln pastures, are profitable; and it appears evident, from the general colour of the comparisons made with the long-horned Leicester, their own short-horned are superior \*."

Perhaps the most profitable stock of the county is *sheep*. Numbers are bred and fattened in this part of the kingdom. Large quantities of wool are thence obtained, to supply the demands of the manufacturing districts. It is a curious fact, that while so much has been said in commendation of the Leicester-shire breed, as though it was a singular species, the Lincolnshire, which is the same, should have been passed over in silence. Mr. Stone says, these sheep are not even varieties. "It is well known, that the late Mr. Bakewell, who was the original breeder of the pretended variety of sheep, called the new Leicester, laid his foundation upon the old Lincoln breed, selecting sheep that possessed the most perfect symmetry for his purpose, and afterwards crossing them with others, or breeding into the whole blood †."

The sheep of Lincolnshire is a large, horned animal, adapted for

\* Young's Agri. Surv.

† Review of the Agriculture.

for the rich grazing, and marsh land of the county; and generally weighs well when fat, and bears a heavy fleece of coarse, but long stapled wool; the weight per fleece is 8lb. and upwards. Mr. Young mentions a sheep sold at Smithfield, which clipped, the first year, 23lb. of wool, in the second year 22½lb.!

Few manufactures are established in the county; but two objects of considerable merchandize must be specified: dealing in rabbit's fur, and goose feathers. These were formerly of great consequence, and furnished articles of extensive trade, between the sellers, buyers, and merchants. From the system of enclosing, now so extensively adopted, both rabbits and geese are much abridged in this county.

The *rabbit warrens* of this county were formerly much more extensive than at present, and were preserved on a principle of improvement; some being broken up for tillage, and others, which had been under tilth, being again laid down for this purpose. The soil of old warrens, by the urine and dung of *rabbits*, and their continually stirring and ventilating the earth in burrowing, has been found incomparably better than lands of a like nature left in their original state. Rabbits are highly prolific; and when in season, and of a proper age, their flesh is esteemed both wholesome and delicate. This, though in a degree an object of profit, does not render them so valuable as their skins; these it was that recommended them to the notice of manorial proprietors; and though now, from various causes, much reduced in price, they still continue to be of no inconsiderable value. The occupier finds, that the investment of a small capital, yields an interest that nothing else will, and a larger profit, with less labour, than any other kind of tenure.

Their fecundity was a circumstance of no small consequence, when the skins of large, well chosen rabbits would produce 2s. 6d. or 3s. each. At that time they were used in making muffs, tippets, lining robes, &c. the down was also employed in the hat manufactories.

As *rabbit skins* constitute the principal profit of the proprietor,

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it becomes a primary object with him to attend to the time of breeding, killing, &c. Skins that are free from black spots on the inside, are said to be in season, and the fur is then more valuable than at any other time. Those rabbits that are bred at the beginning of May, are esteemed the best. In June and November the skin is also generally white. The silver grey rabbits are of the best sort, excepting those of a clear white colour. Skins from the latter have sold from ninepence to sixteenpence each. The carcasses have not netted of late, to the keepers of these warrens, more than fourpence each, owing to the obligation they are under of sending them far to a market, and to kill from eight to ten parts of the annual produce from the beginning of November to the end of December. This trade is not only on the decline, from the diminution in the value of the skins, but also from the means of conducting it becoming daily more circumscribed. Since many methods have been discovered to ameliorate such lands, and render them more productive, it has been thought a point of good husbandry to destroy the warrens, and convert the land to other uses; and the sooner the whole of such nuisances were removed the better. The voracity of rabbits is equal to their fecundity; and as they eat all kinds of herbs, roots, grain, fruit, bark, and branches of young trees, they are very destructive to plantations, corn, and other crops, especially quickset hedges. Though the number of warrens in Lincolnshire has been greatly reduced within a few years past, yet many thousand acres are still devoted to this kind of stock. Mr. Young counted ten between Louth and Castor, a distance of eighteen miles\*.

Many of what are called the Fens, are in a state of waste, and serve for little other purpose than the breeding and rearing of *Geese*, which are considered the Fenman's treasure. Indeed they are a highly valuable stock, and live where, in the present state

\* For a more particular account of such lands, and their comparative profits, see Young's Agricultural Survey.

state of those lands, nothing else will. They breed numerous young, which quickly become saleable; or if thought more desirable, speedily contribute to increase the stock. Their feathers are highly valuable; and however trifling it may appear in detail, the sale of quills alone amount, on a large flock, to a very considerable sum. Of feathers the use is well known; and of all kinds, for the stuffing of beds, those of geese are considered the best. Whether from increasing luxury, the diminution in the quantity produced, or both these causes co-operating, the present demand in England is obliged to be supplied by importations from abroad; and the article is greatly advanced, and advancing, in price. From the cheap mode which persons in this county possess of keeping these aquatic fowls, Lincolnshire still furnishes the markets with large quantities of goose-feathers and goose-quills.

"During the breeding season, these birds are lodged in the same houses with the inhabitants, and even in their very bed-chambers; in every apartment are three rows of coarse wicker pens, placed one above another; each bird has its separate lodge, divided from the other, which it keeps possession of during the time of sitting. A gozzard, or goosherd, attends the flock, and twice a day drives the whole to water, then brings them back to their habitation, helping those that live in the upper stories to their nests, without ever misplacing a single bird\*."

The geese are usually plucked five times a year, though some persons pluck them only three times, and others four. The first plucking is at Lady-day, for quills and feathers, and again at Midsummer, Lammas, Michaelmas, and Martinmas. Goslings are not spared; for it is thought, that early plucking tends to increase their succeeding feathers. "The feathers of a dead goose are worth sixpence, three giving a pound; but plucking alive does not yield more than threepence a head, per annum. Some wing them only every quarter, taking ten feathers from each goose,

VOL. IX.

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which

\* Gough's additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 235. Edition of 1789.



which sell at five shillings a thousand. Plucked geese pay, in feathers, one shilling a head in Wildmore Fen\*."

The common mode of plucking live geese is considered a barbarous custom; but it has, perhaps, prevailed ever since feather beds came into general use. The mere plucking is said to hurt the fowl but little, as the owners are careful not to pull until the feathers are *ripe*; that is, not till they are just ready to fall; because if forced from the skin before, which is known by blood appearing at the roots, they are of very inferior value. Those plucked after the geese are dead, are not so good.

The general improvements that have been effected in this county, within the last twenty years, and that are now gradually making, have co-operated to alter the general appearance, the agriculture, climate, &c. in such a material manner, that the surface has assumed a new aspect, the value of land is greatly increased, the means of social and commercial communication have been facilitated, and rendered more convenient, and the comforts of domestic life greatly promoted. Still, though much has been done towards effecting these important ends, there is scope for material improvements: for the *roads* in many parts of the county are in a very bad state, and though toll bars are raised to tax the traveller, he is not provided with advantages adequate to the levied rates. In the neighbourhood of Boston, Spalding, and Louth, the Commissioners have commenced a plan of forming firm and substantial roads. This is mostly done by laying a quantity of shingles, brought from the Norfolk coast, in the centre of the road, and mixing them with the *silt* of the place. The latter is a sort of porous sea sand, which has been deposited by the tides at a period when they covered the whole of the fens. It becomes firm with rain, but in dry weather forms a loose sand, of a dark red colour, driven about by the winds, and unfit for vegetation. Mixed with clay and loam it affords valuable breeding pasture for sheep, and in some places, under

\* Young's General View, p. 394.

under tillage, produces large crops of *oats*. This grain is almost the only object of agriculture in the inclosed fen-lands; and immense crops of it are produced with little labour or skill.

"There is an extraordinary circumstance," says A. Young, "in the north-west corner of the county. Agues were formerly commonly known upon the Trent and Humber sides—at present they are rare; and nothing has been effected on the Lincoln side of the Humber, to which it can be attributed; but there was a coincidence of time with the draining Wallin-fen in Yorkshire to this effect: that county is now full of new built houses, and highly improved, and must have occasioned this remarkable change\*."

The *Wolds* extend from Spilsby, in a north westerly direction, for about forty miles to Barton; near the Humber. They are, on the average, nearly eight miles in breadth, and consist of sand and sandy loam, upon flinty loam, with a sub-stratum of chalk. This is peculiarly their appearance about Louth, and in the extensive rabbit warrens between Gayton and Tathwel. But where the friable loams prevail, rich upland pastures are seen pleasingly intermixed. From Binbrook to Caiston, with the interruption of Caiston Moor, a sandy soil prevails; and thence, sand with an intermixture of argillaceous earth, till they change into the rich loam of which Barton field, a space of 6000 acres, principally consists.

Beneath this line, and parallel with the eastern shore, lies an extensive tract of land at the foot of the Wolds, in the direction of north west to south east, reaching from Barton to Wainfleet, of various breadth, from five to ten miles. This tract of country, called the *marsh*, is secured from the encroachments of the sea by embankments of earth, and is agriculturally divided into north and south marshes, by a difference in the soil, called *middle marsh*. The first comprises a large extent of rich salt lands, the value of which is well known to the grazier; the second consists of stiff, cold, and tenacious clay, consequently

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of

\* General View, p. 6.



of inferior value; and the intervening land is a rich brown loam, stretching across from Belesby to Grimsby. Between these two ridges, of Wolds and Heath, is a tract of varied, but useful land, though accompanied by much of a different character. From "The heath-hill, looking eastward, there is no cliff; yet the country slopes gradually into a vale, of soils too various for description, but not good in its general feature. Half way to the Wolds, in a line not regular, there is a rising tract of good land, that is narrow, on which the villages are built; this sinks again into another part of the various-soiled vale to the Wolds. Thus forming, between the Heath and the Wolds, first, the narrow ridge on which the villages are built, set at about sixteen shillings; then the Ancholme flat, at fourteen shillings; the ridge of pasture, at sixteen shillings; a flat of moor very bad; and then the Wolds\*." Between these are the following Fens: first, those which lie below the sloping ground of the south Heath, running north by east from Grantham to Lincoln, extending again by the west from Lincoln to the banks of the Trent. Second, those low lands lying upon the river Witham, forming a triangle between the points of Lincoln, Wainfleet, and Croyland. And lastly, those which lie between the north Heath and the Wolds, in the vicinity of Ancholme.

FENS, RIVERS, DRAINING, &c. The Fens of this county, it has been observed, form one of its most prominent features. They consist of lands which, at some distant period, have been inundated by the sea, and by human art have been recovered from it. In the summer season they exhibit immense tracts chiefly of grazing land, intersected by wide deep ditches, called droves, which answer the end both of fences and drains. These are accompanied generally by parallel banks, upon which the roads pass, and are intended to keep the waters, in flood time, from overflowing the adjacent lands. They not only communicate with each other, but also with larger canals, called *dykes* and *drains*,

\* Young's General View, &c. p. 9.

*drains*, which in some instances are navigable for boats and barges. At the lower end of these are sluices, guarded by gates, termed *gowts* or *gouts*. During the summer, numerous flocks and herds are seen grazing over this monotonous scene, and many of the pastures afford a rich and luxuriant herbage; but in the winter, or the autumn, if it should prove wet, the aspect is changed; the cattle quickly disappear; the scene rapidly alters; and the eye must pass over thousands of acres of water or ice, before it can find an object on which to rest, save the numerous wild fowl which then occupy this watery expanse.

There are several causes which combine to produce this drowning of the lands. Many of the fens lie below the level of the sea; some are lower than the beds of the rivers; and all are beneath the high water mark of their respective drains. The substratum of the Fens is *silt*, or sea sand, which is a well known conductor of water. Through this, when the drains are full, the sea water filters; and, unable to pass by the drains, rises on the surface, and is known by the name of *soak*. To this is added, after rains, the water which flows from the higher lands, the overflowings of the ditches and rivers, and inundations from the sea, by the frequent breaches made in the banks formed for fencing it out. It is a circumstance no less interesting to the philosopher, than mortifying to the inhabitants of this county, that in many situations where the latter are almost ruined by this element in winter, during summer they are greatly distressed for it, even for the most common purposes. They are often in want of it for watering their cattle. In dry seasons, rich marsh land, which would feed a bullock an acre, being destitute of fresh water, cannot be depastured, and consequently becomes of little value; for any thing of the nature of a flood, to which the vallies or low lands of more unequal districts are so often exposed, has been unknown in this part of the kingdom since the general system of draining has been practised. At this season the drains are very shallow, and the ditches dry, the *soak* filters off through the *silt*; and, except in a few places, springs of



fresh water are unknown; so that the cattle must be driven to a great distance for it, at a certain loss in the proof, and at a heavy expence. Another evil also arises from those ditches becoming dry; being the only bounds between fields and farms, each occupier is continually liable to trespass from the straying of his neighbour's cattle, and to actions of trespass for the damages committed by his own.

Of the immense tract of *Fen-land* in this, as well as the adjoining counties, much has been written, not only because it forms a prominent feature in the face of this part of the kingdom, but from having excited particular attention in the early periods of our history, at various times engaged the most pointed attention of the legislature, and to the present hour has elicited the genius, and employed the most strenuous energies of man, in attempts to facilitate its improvement. Of these attempts, made at different periods, and still making, to obtain the same desirable end, I shall take a cursory view. Previous to which, however, it will be necessary to enquire, whether these lands were *originally* in a state of *Fen*, or from various causes became so, subsequent to the period assigned by some writers for their existence? For this purpose, it will be necessary to advert to the natural rivers, and shew how they wind their devious courses through these marsh lands to the sea.

It was the opinion of an able writer, who had entered more fully into this subject than any who preceded or have followed him, that there was a time when these parts of the country were not inundated by the ocean; and though he could not affix any precise time for the event, he suggested several causes, which might either suddenly or gradually have tended to produce it. Speaking of the Isle of Axholme, he says, "For many ages it hath been a fenny tract, and for the most part covered with waters, but was more anciently not so; for originally it was a *woody* country, and not at all annoyed with those inundations of the rivers that passed through it, as is most evident by the great numbers

bers of oak, fir, and other trees, which have been of late frequently found in the moor, upon making of sundry ditches and channels for the draining thereof; the oak trees lying somewhat above three feet in depth, and near their roots, which do still stand as they grewed, viz. in firm earth below the river\*."

In speaking of the great level, Dugdale is of opinion, that it was formerly firm and dry land, neither annoyed with stagnation of fresh waters, nor inundations from the sea; and this he supposes was the case both of the fens in Lincolnshire and the adjoining counties: for it is an established fact, that large timber trees will not thrive in watery or marshy lands, and such have been found lying in the earth abundantly in this country. Hence it will appear, that these lands were at a former period in a very different state to what they are at present, and the cause of such a remarkable change it is desirable to ascertain. On such occasions it is usual to wave the trouble of investigation, by referring it to some extraordinary convulsions of Nature; and an earthquake often in this way suddenly swallows up or supplies the place of a long train of natural causes. Dugdale himself, unable to find any documents, which might enable him to affirm positively on the subject, is obliged to have recourse to this kind of conjecture—"By what means that violent breach and inundation of the sea was first made into this country, I am not able positively to affirm, therefore I must take leave to deliver my conjecture therein, from the most rational probabilities; which is, that it was by some great earthquake: for that such dreadful accidents have occasioned the like we have unquestionable testimony†."

But the enquiring mind does not easily rest satisfied with such precipitate conclusions; it must have recourse to facts, for as it aims at truth, it requires demonstration. With this view, there-

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\* Dugdale's "History of Imbanking and Draining," edit. by Cole, p. 141.  
—See Beauties in Cambridgeshire.

† History of Imbanking, &c. p. 172.



fore, it will be necessary to speak of the nature, course, and extent of the *natural rivers*, within the limits of the district now to be described. The principal of these, which either rise in this county, pass through, or are connected with it, are the Trent, the Ancholme, the Witham, the Welland, and the Glen, with other tributary streams.

The TRENT, though not properly a river of the county, rising in Staffordshire, and taking a north-eastern course through the counties of Derby and Nottingham, yet, as dividing the latter county from that of Lincoln, has a claim to some notice here. It forms the boundary on the north-western side, from the village of North Clifford to that of Stockworth; whence it constitutes the eastern boundary of the Isle of Axholme: it thence flows to Aldborough, opposite to which it receives the Dun, and a little below, being joined by the Ouse, both mingle their waters with the Humber. From Gainsborough, where it is crossed by an handsome bridge, it is navigable for the conveyance of coals, corn, and various articles of commerce to its estuary.

The ANCHOLME is a small river, rising in the Wolds, near Market-Rasin, whence, flowing northward by Glanford Bridge, it is navigable to the Humber, and falls into this river some miles below the junction of the Trent.

The WELLAND takes its rise near Sibertoff in Northamptonshire; and being increased by numerous rivulets and streams, passes Market Deeping; where, entering the fens, it leaves a portion of its waters and sludge or sock, which it had accumulated in its previous passage through the rich lands of Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, and Rutlandshire. In its course from Deeping to Croyland it divides into two streams; the one branching off southward by east to Wisbeach; and the other, by a sluggish course, through an artificial channel, to Spalding and Surfleet, where meeting the contributory *Glen*, it empties itself into Foss-dyke-Wash, east of Boston.

The WITHAM only is properly and completely a river of this county, and is entitled to particular notice. It may be said to derive

derive its source near South Witham, a village about ten miles north of Stamford; and thence flows almost duly north, by North Witham, Coltersworth, through the park of Easton, and to Great Ponton, where another stream joins it from Skillington and Stoke Rochford. At Little Ponton it receives a small brook, and then proceeds on the eastern side of the town of Grantham; whence it flows by Belton Park and Syston, and then turns westerly to Long Bennington. Here it bends again to the north; and after flowing by Claypole and Beckingham, it proceeds through a wide sandy valley to Lincoln. It now flows almost directly east to Grubhill, where it turns to the south-east, and continues in this direction to Boston, and unites its waters with the sea, at a place called Boston Deepes. From its source to Beckingham its banks are diversified with rising grounds and ornamental objects. Among the latter are the elegant spire of Grantham church, the fine woods at Belton Park, Syston Park, and Little Ponton. In its course to Lincoln the contiguous country is diversified by high grounds, vallies, and woods: after passing the city it leaves the high lands, and continues through a level tract of country to the sea. Much of the present bed of the river from Boston upwards is a new artificial cut, made for the purpose of widening and straightening the channel, rendering it more commodious for navigation, and better adapted to receive and carry off the water of the contiguous fens.

These rivers, with those of the Grant, Ouse, and Nene, in the adjoining counties, from the obstructions they meet in delivering their waters to the ocean, are the cause of drowning so large a portion of valuable land. By which means, instead of deriving the benefits the country otherwise might, from the occasional overflowing of their waters, had they been permitted to have a free passage to the sea, it has been greatly injured by their stagnating effects; yielding little profit to the proprietors, and annoying those who reside in their vicinity. From these and other causes the courses of the rivers have been changed at times; their usual channels being obstructed, the waters have forced through the  
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low lands new passages to the sea. Their direction has been sometimes altered, by the plans put in execution for the drainage of the country. Thus the "Welland having anciently its course by Spalding, through the decay of the out-fall there, a great part thereof sometime fell through Great Passons, and so out by Quaplode; but that out-fall also decaying, as most out-falls over the washes have and still will do, that way was stopped up, and the river driven to seek a course in a very faint manner, by south-east, towards Wisbeach; where again, through the defect of Wisbeach's out-fall, when it meeteth with the Nene at the new Leames-end at Guyhirne, they both turn back under Waltersey Bank to Hobbes, and so to Harche Stream; and there meeting with the great branch of Nene came to Welle, and so to Salter's Lode\*."

We are informed by Leland, that a channel was cut to divert it nearly in the line of its ancient course, by a shorter way, called the New Drain, in which passing Croyland, it runs into the sea by Spalding.

Other rivers of the Fen Country have experienced similar changes.

The *Witham*, by powers granted to Commissioners in the time of Richard the Second, it appears, that its ancient bed had been choked up between Claypole and Lincoln, by which means the current had been diverted, and much of the adjacent country overflowed from the waters endeavouring to find another passage. And in the eighteenth of the said King's reign, a new Commission was appointed to view and repair the different banks, sewers, &c. between the Hill Dyke and Bolingbroke. The latter part of its course was diverted by art from the old bed under the direction of a Mr. Grundy, surveyor and engineer, about the year 1762. The plan was only partially acted upon, by which the waters of the Witham were conducted by a new channel, with double embankments, commencing near Hambridge, proceeding  
to

\* Dagd. Imb. p. 373.

to Langrick Ferry, and thence through Anton's Gowl, to the grand Sluice near Boston.

That the obstructions, which these rivers meet in their passage, has been the cause of the inundations, is clearly evident; but perhaps what has occasioned those may not be so manifest. In viewing the various inlets of the sea on this part of the coast it is surprising to observe the immense quantity of sand and sludge which is continually depositing on the shore. This is caused by the nature of the tides, which, from the form of the channel, flow with much more violence than they ebb. This causes the mouths of the rivers to be choaked up, and the descending waters to be thrown back on the lowlands, in the vicinity of their banks. "Whosoever hath observed the constant tides, which flow up the river Ouse, at Lynne, will find the water always very thick and muddy there, because the sea bearing a larger breadth northwards, from thence worketh with so much distemper. It is no wonder therefore, that a great proportion of *silt* doth daily settle in the mouth of the Ostiary, and likewise in the other, viz. of Wisbeche, Spalding, and Boston, so that in time it could not but grow to that thickness, without some artificial helps to quicken the current, upon its evacuation at every ebb, whereby it might be carried out again, that it must needs force back the fresh waters, and cause them not only to overflow, but at length to drown the whole level, through which their streams did pass. And this we see was apparently the case here; for to such an height is the silt grown, that in the year 1635, upon the deepening of Wisbeche river, the workmen, at eight feet below, came to another bottom which was stoney, and in it, at several distances, found several boats that had lain there overwhelmed with the silt for many ages\*."

The Great Bay, or Estuary, into which the different rivers, passing through the Fens are disembogued, is very shallow and full of shifting sands and silt. The rivers, which are constantly loaded

\* Dugd. Imb. p. 177.



loaded with mud, particularly in times of flood, are met by the tide equally charged with silt, which obstructs their entrance; and at a certain distance from their mouths, the force of the river waters becoming equal, a stagnation takes place, during which the silt is dropped and banks are formed. The situation of these banks is nearer to, or farther from the river's mouth, in proportion as the strength of the river water is greater or less, *i. e.* as it is sooner or later overcome by the tide.

"Thus, if the seasons are wet, the rivers having a greater quantity of water in them, run to seaward with a greater velocity, and of consequence drive the silt further out; on the other hand, if the seasons are dry, and the tides stronger from the effects of wind, or other causes, the silt of course is driven less powerfully outwards, and settles nearer to their mouths, which choaks them up and prevents their free discharge from the fens\*."

These, without any extraordinary phenomenon, appear to have formed the moor-land of the present Fen-country, and to be the sole cause of its frequent inundations. That this was the state of the country, at an early period, is evident, from the plans of imbanking and draining which the Romans adopted in order to counteract the mischievous effects of such inundations. Since their departure much has been done at various times for the improvement of the district, and an immense expense has been occasionally, and is still annually incurred, to prevent the encroachment of the waters, and at the same time to ameliorate the soil. A brief account will not only serve to give an idea of the country, but also tend to illustrate those periods of history.

*Deeping Fen*, on the banks of the Welland, appears to have received the earliest attention; for at the beginning of Edward the Confessor's reign, a road was made across it by Egelric, formerly a monk of Peterborough, but at that time bishop of Durham †.

In

\* Rennie's "First Report concerning the Drainage of Wildmore Fen," &c. p. 2.

† Hist. Ingulphi, f. 510.

In the time of the Conqueror, Richard de Rulos, chamberlain to that monarch, inclosed this part of the Fen Country, from the chapel of St. Guthlake to Cardyke, and beyond to Clei-lake, near Cranmore; excluding the river Welland, by a large and extensive bank of earth. "And having by this good husbandry brought the soil to that fertile condition, he converted the said chapel of St. Guthlake into a church, the place being now called Market Deeping; by the like means of banking and draining he also made a village, dedicated to St. James, in the very pan of Pudlington; and by much labour and charge reduced it into fields, meadows, and pastures, which is now called Deeping St. James \*."

As property became more divided, greater attention was paid to the improvement of the soil; and various presentments were made, and grants obtained, for scouring the rivers, and draining off the superfluous waters.

The FOSS DYKE is an artificial trench, extending about seven miles in length, from the great marsh near the city of Lincoln to the river Trent in the vicinity of Torksey. This was made, or materially altered, by king Henry the First, in the year 1121, for the purpose of bringing vessels from the Trent to the city; as well as for making a general drain for the adjacent level. From its passing through so flat a country the water could have but a slow current, whereby it became unnavigable from the increasing accumulation of mud, so that it was soon found necessary to cleanse it. To defray the expense certain sums of money were assessed on the lands that had been, or were to be, benefited by the drainage. And on complaint being made, in the time of Edward the Third, that the collectors converted the money to their own use, an order was made for an enquiry to be instituted, and commissioners were afterwards appointed to superintend in future the concern.

Of the *Marshes* on the river *Ancholme*, the first account on record is 16th of Edward the First. "The King then directing his

\* Dugd. Imb. p. 194.



would be expedient for the advantage of the country, if it should meet the approbation of the abbot, that other sluices, formed of *timber*, should be set up, consisting of two flood gates; each containing in itself four feet in breadth, and six feet in height; as also a certain bridge upon the said sluices, in length and breadth sufficient for carts and other carriages to pass over. These, having stood one year, were reported stable by the commissioners. "The said abbot of Selby, Richard Amcotes, and others the freeholders of Crull-Amcotes, Waterton, Carlethorpe, Ludington, and Eltof, in the county of Lincoln, as also all the said towns in common, should, for their lands within that *soke*, be obliged of right to keep them in repair." The abbot was also requested "to make, without the said sluice, towards the river Trent, one *demmyng*, at the feast of Easter next ensuing." They also determined, "that the cleansing, scouring, repairing, &c. of the Maredyke" should lie with the said inhabitants in future.

In the beginning of the reign of Charles the First, that "commendable work" was commenced, which embraced not only the marshes of Axholme, but of all the adjacent fens, called Dikesmersh and Hatfield Chase, in the county of York. These comprehended an extent of lands which were drowned not only in winter, but in summer were often so deeply covered with water, that boats could navigate over them to the extent of 60,000 acres.

These belonging chiefly to the crown, it was thought advisable, both for the good of the country and the increase of the royal revenue, that an attempt should be made to recover the same; and King Charles the Second did, under the great seal of England, contract for this purpose with Cornelius Vermuden, then of the city of London, Esq. by articles bearing date the 24th day of May, in the second year of his reign, A. D. 1626. The purport of the agreement was, that the said Vermuden should, at his own charge, drain the lands specified, in consideration of which he and his heirs for ever should hold of the king one full third part of the said surrounded grounds; that he should pay to the owners of such lands, lying within the same level,

level; and so surrounded, such sums as the lands should be deemed worth by four commissioners, two of whom to be nominated by Cornelius, and two by the lord treasurer of England, for the time being. When the works were finished, a corporation was to be formed of such persons as the said Cornelius, or his heirs, should nominate, to make acts and ordinances, as occasion might require, for the preservation of the same. That three years after that completion, six commissioners should be appointed to estimate what the annual charge might amount to, for their perpetual maintenance, and for conveying lands of sufficient value to support the said estimated charge. Commissioners also were appointed to ascertain the claims of those who pleaded a right in the commonable lands within the level, and to settle the same. "The agreement being therefore made, this great work was accordingly begun, and had so successful a progress, that, with the charge of 55,825*l.* or thereabouts, it became fully finished within the space of five years; the waters which usually overflowed the whole level being conveyed into the river Trent, through Snow-Sewer, and Althorpe river, by a sluice, which issued out the drained water at every ebb, and kept back the tides upon all comings-in thereof\*."

WITHAM MARSHES, &c. It is traditionally affirmed, that large vessels could formerly sail up the river Witham from Boston to Lincoln; and from the ribs, timbers, &c. of ships that have been frequently found near it, the tradition seems to be justified. At present, however, it is only adapted for barges; and the flow of the current is so small, that it does not cleanse the bed of the river. The first notice of the great inconveniences arising from the obstruction of its waters, appears in the sixth year of Edward the Third, *Henry de Fienton*, *William de Dysney*, and *Thomas de Sibthorpe*, being in that year constituted the king's commissioners for surveying the same, between the town of

VOL. IX.

O o

Beckingham

\* Dugd. Imbank. See more also in "State of the Case," printed London, A. D. 1626.



Beckingham and the city of Lincoln. By a report from these persons it appeared, that the river was so obstructed by "sand, mud, flood-gates, sluices, mills," &c. that the waters were frequently turned out of their proper channel, and thus hindered in their course, were continually inundating the adjacent levels, and doing great injury to the occupiers of the lands.—And a presentment being made in the thirty-seventh year of the same reign to *John de Repynghale* and *H. Asty*, the king's commissioners, then sitting at Newark, for the view of the said river, the jurors gave a verdict for the removal of a mill and flood-gates, belonging to the Knights Hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem. About two years afterwards, another presentment was made in the Court of King's Bench, when it appeared, that by the neglect of a sewer, called Mardyke, in Coningesby, the marshes of Wildmore and Bolingbroke were overflowed, through the fault of the said town of Coningesby; the inhabitants of which, as they ought, were ordered to repair the same.

By various surveys and presentments, other parts of this river were viewed in different reigns, and various regulations made for restraining the waters within due bounds, and delivering the land floods speedily to the sea. But more effectual measures were thought necessary to be adopted for furthering the design, and recourse was had to Flanders\*, for procuring an able engineer to execute it.

A council was held the fifteenth of King Henry the Seventh, to deliberate on the best means to be adopted on this occasion. The principal members which formed it were, *My Lord of Duresme*, *My Lord of St. John*, *Sir John Finneux*, *Sir Richard Gylford*, *Sir Ranold Gray*, and *Sir Thomas Lovell*. They concluded,

\* The following particulars, relating to this subject, are derived from a series of interesting documents which have been preserved among the archives of the corporation of Boston, a copy of which was furnished me by Mr. Rennie, the able engineer, who is now engaged in prosecuting and effecting what Hake began in the time of Henry the Seventh.

cluded, that a sluice should be made at Boston, "after the mind of Maybake; that an agreement be made with him for performing the same, and rewarding him and his men. For this purpose, an assessment to be made, and the sum of 1000*l*. borrowed of the king, lords, and great possessioners, till it could be levied by the commissioners of sewers, according to the law of Romney Marche, whence a bailiff, juratts, and levellers, were to be obtained. The bailiff to have, for himself and servant, per diem, 2*s*. 4*d*. every of the said juratts, 1*s*. 4*d*. and each leveller 1*s*." New commissioners were chosen, consisting of the abovenamed council and others, who were instructed to ascertain the number of acres; order statute duty to be performed, till the work was finished; levy contributions; send ships to Calais for Hake and his companions skilled in imbanking and draining, and materials for the work; appoint proper officers for directing and expediting the same; and whatever else might fall under the necessary management of the concern.

By a deed of agreement, drawn up by the order of his Majesty in council, the fifteenth year of his reign, between *Sir John Husse*, Knight, and *John Robinson*, of the one part, and *Mayhave Hake*, of Graveling, "in the parts" of Flanders on the other part, it appears, that the said Hake covenants to bring with him, from Flanders, fourteen masons, and four labourers, to make a proper sluice and dam, near the town of Boston, sufficient for its future safeguard. The said Mayhave Hake, and his companions, to be remunerated for their labour by the following wages:—

"Mahave Hake to have, for himself and man, holy day as well as common day, per diem, 4*s*. The masons and stonehewers, per week, 5*s*. The labourers, per week, 4*s*. The said Mahave Hake, after the work was fully completed, to receive an additional reward of 50*l*. Should any more workmen be necessary, during the progress of the work, they should be provided at the expence of the inhabitants of Boston and the level of Holland and Kesteven."



The engineer further agreed, to make "sure purveyance," at Calais, of iron work, and all other stuff or materials necessary for the accomplishment of the sluice, &c. The costs and charges of the whole to be borne by the inhabitants of Boston and the level aforesaid. And by a writ issued the 8th day of March, to the mayors, sheriffs, bailiffs, constables, &c. the contracting parties were allowed "to take and retain, at competent wages, such, and as many workemen, laborers, and artificers, and alsoe as much timber, stone, and other things, together with carts and carriages for the same, at pryce resonable, as they shall think necessary and behoveful for the speedy performance of such works, as be requisite to be done in the said partes." And the King's officers were required to aid and assist, in procuring such necessary articles, from time to time, under pain of meeting the King's displeasure. In "the remembrancer of diverse articles, when examination was to be made respecting the sluice at Boston, dated the 13th of May, fifteenth year of Henry the Seventh," are the following curious items.

"Item, that it is determined, that forthwith they," the masons, &c. "shall begin and labour upon the makeing the said sluice.

"Item, that provision be made for stuffe in all goodlye haste, for the makeing the said sluice.

"Item, that all such broke and ould houseinge, as be within the town of Boston, be had and taken at a reasonable price, for the making of the said sluice.

"Item, it is agreed, that Mayhave Hake shall have with him William Robinson and his man; and the said William shall have, for him, his servant and horse, for the costs at such time as they shall be desiered to ride about the making of the said sluice, every *wake* 10s. and likewise at whome, when they ride not.

"Item, it is ordeined, that every mann, as expenditors, and other by them to be assigned, with two horses, being on business for the makeing of the said sluice, shall have, by the day, 1s. 8d. and a man with one horse, 1s.

"Item, that the said expenditors shall have a clerk of sewers  
for

for the work, such as My Ladyes Grace shall appoint, which shall weekeley have, for him and his servant, 8s.

“Item, that provision of all manner of stuffe concerning the said sluice be made and provided by the said expeditors, and the workemen to the same.

“Item, that Mathew, or Mahave Hake, be contented of his wages for him and his masons, according to the indenture made between My Lady's Grace and the said Mathew.”

These items allude to an indenture made subsequent to that in which Sir John Husse, Knight, was a party, between the high and mighty Princesse Margaret, mother to the King, Countesse of Richmond and Darby, on the one part, and Mathew Hake on the other. Whereby it is stipulated, that he and his masons should have no further allowance than was made in the indenture, bearing date the 19th of February preceding; “and alsoe other masons and workmen, taken for the said workes, to have such wages as the expeditors and the clerk of sewers over the works shall agree with them for. And for reward, and in recompense of fourteen masons and twenty-four workmen, and other demands, he shall abide the order and rules of the said Princes and the King's Counsaile. Dated May 13th, fifteenth of Henry the Seventh.”

In the above manuscript is contained a list of the principal articles that were to be provided for the necessary conducting the work, and the places pointed out whence they ought to be procured. The iron especially, was to be purchased in that part of France then belonging to the crown of England. As the items relating to this article may tend to throw some light on the state of one part of our manufactures, as well as ascertain the price of the most useful metal at the period in question, it may be desirable to insert it. This will be seen by the following items; being the charges of “iron made and bought at Callis, for Boston sluice, in anno 1500\*.”

O o 3

First

\* The iron consisted of bars, small cramps, long cramps, rings with cramps, great chains, hoops, pynns, hookes, great bands, bolts for locks and keys, and great scherys.



|                                                                                  | £. | s. | d. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| First paid to James Locker, for 4012lbs. iron, pryce }<br>the lb. 2d. sm̄d. .... | 33 | 8  | 8  |
| Item, paid ste. to Mayhake, Inna. ....                                           | 0  | 18 | 0  |
| Item, paid pro. two dozen of great maunds .....                                  | 0  | 5  | 0  |
| Item, paid pro. two dozen of paunes .....                                        | 0  | 14 | 0  |
| Item, paid for five mortar troughs .....                                         | 0  | 4  | 2  |
| Item, paid for two dozen of little maunds .....                                  | 0  | 2  | 8  |
| Item, for two dozen of water scoopes .....                                       | 0  | 7  | 6  |
| Item, two dozen of base rape .....                                               | 0  | 6  | 0  |
| Item, paid for the carriage of the said stuff .....                              | 0  | 1  | 0  |
|                                                                                  | 36 | 7  | 0  |

For defraying the expenditure, a rate was made upon the lands lying in the contiguous wapentakes, according to the allotment of the commissioners. But while the assessment was making, and preparing to be levied, an order of council was issued, "That such as had lands within the said level should advance, by way of *prest*, the sum of ten pounds; a moyety to be paid immediately, and the other moyety to be surely sent and delivered at the town of Boston, in the following May. And in case that after levying of the scotts, after the usage of the marches, any person's part extended not fully to the sum advanced by way of *prest*, the remainder was to be repaid." This order was signed at the King's Manor of Greenwich, the 21st day of February, the fifteenth of Henry the Seventh.

By a rate made in the time of Margaret, Countess of Richmond, for the repair of Boston sluice, the first assessment amounted to the sum of 367l. 1s. 9½d. on the different townships subject to the levy. From another account, written by Dr. Brown, it appears, that much benefit accrued from the work, though it was not done agreeably to the first intention. "Afore the sluice was made, at a full spring in winter, when the flood and fresh water did meet together at Dockdyke, the salt water and fresh water strove soe together, that the water ran soe over the

the banks of both sides the haven, that it drowned all the common fen; soe that men might have roome with boates from Garwich to Boston towne: and likewise from Boston to Kirkeby land side.—And that the sea bankes and fen bankes were at double more charge, than they be now.”

To the north and north-east of the Witham, whose outlet to the sea was intended to be facilitated, and the adjacent lands benefited by the work just mentioned, lies the large fenny tracts called *Wildmore Fen*, *West Fen*, and *East Fen*.

Upon a writ of *Ad quod damnum*, in the forty-first of Queen Elizabeth, concerning the draining of these, it appears, that in East Fen 5000 acres were drowned, half of which was then considered drainable, and the other half irrecoverably lost; and that the commons and severalties on the borders of the said fen, contained about 3400 acres, the whole of which was surrounded. At a session of sewers held at Boston, the 15th of May, sixth of Charles the First, a recital was made, by virtue of a decree, that the greater part of these lands, whose bounds are stated, were surrounded grounds in the winter season. It was therefore decreed, that the outfall at Wainfleet-haven should be deepened and enlarged, the various gowts cleansed, and all other necessary works done for draining the extent of country taken in the survey. Each acre of land receiving benefit by the said drainage to pay ten shillings. The money to be paid into the hands of Sir Anthony Thomas, Knight, and the rest of the undertakers, after the work was completed, or proportionably as it might be done.

At another session of sewers, held the 15th of April, A. D. 1631, a decree was made, “That Sir Anthony Thomas, and his participants, for their expences, should not only have the one half of the said East Fen, and a third of all the severals adjoining thereto; and likewise the fourth part of all the surrounding grounds lying in the West Fen, and the severals thereto adjoining, limited and appointed to them by a former decree, but some farther augmentation in certain other particular places\*.”

O o 4

Notwithstanding

\* Dugd. Imb. p. 423.



Notwithstanding the early and continued attention, which, from this historical view, appears to have been devoted to the improvement of this marshy country, the frequent interference of the Legislature, and the immense sums expended in different periods on its drainages, the progress has not been adequate to the exertions made: indeed, often the beneficial effects have been retrograde, and the attainment of the object is still a desideratum, in plans for the amelioration of the soil. This has arisen from various causes:—From want of proper levels having been taken for the drains when they were first made, by which means, through the occasional superfluity of waters from beneath the soil, and the addition of the upland waters in time of floods, the country could only be temporarily or partially drained. The smallness of the gowts and sluices not being sufficiently wide to deliver the superabundant waters to the sea or rivers, they have again been refluxent on the adjacent lands. The Commissioners of these sewers, frequently inattentive to the state of the dykes and gowts, and often misled by the ignorance of engineers, or warped by the prejudice and interest of a party, have not always conducted their enquiries, or exerted their powers, for the general benefit. The difference of seasons also makes a wide alteration in the state of the outfalls. If the summer proves particularly dry, the quantity of silt which settles in the mouths of the rivers, or in those Estuaries, called the Washes, is so great, that it requires the floods in winter to continue several weeks to scour it away, and cleanse the openings to the sea. During this time the gates are *over-rod*, that is, the water is so high as to prevent their use; and the fens become the receptacle of the waters, which arise from beneath, that fall on their surface, or descend from the high lands: and in addition to these, inundations frequently happen from the rivers by the bursting of the defensive banks. Thus the accumulation of water becomes so great that the outlets are not sufficient for its discharge; and the principal part of the spring is gone before it can be all carried off, to the annoyance of the occupier, and to the injury of the proprietor,

prietor. Many, however, have been the attempts to remedy these evils, and a spirit of improvement, within these few years past, seems to have pervaded all ranks of people in this extensive county.

"*Deeping Fen*, which extends most of the eleven miles from that town to Spalding, is a very capital improvement by draining. Twenty years ago the lands sold for about 3l. an acre; some was then let at 7s. or 8s. an acre; and a great deal was in such a state, that no body would rent it. Now it is in general worth 20s. an acre, and sells at 20l. an acre: 10,000 acres of it are taxable under Commissioners, pay up to 20s. an acre, but so low as 2s. average 4s. including poor rates, and all tithes free. The free land also sells from 15l. to 20l. an acre and more, three or four years ago\*."

Mr. Stone, however, furnishes us with a considerable drawback upon this flattering account, and suggests some useful hints towards a more favourable prospect—"The drainage of *Deeping fen*, he says, so improperly commended by Mr. Young, is chiefly effected by three wind-engines, above Spalding, that lift the *Deeping fen* water into the river Welland, the bed of which, I apprehend, is now higher than the land intended to be drained, assisted by a side cut, called the *West Load*, which falls into the Welland, just below Spalding; and which district, in violent floods, in a calm, when the engines cannot work, is reduced to a most deplorable condition, more especially when the banks of the Welland are overflowed or give way, as happened in 1798, in consequence of an accumulated weight of water, occasioned by violent floods, and the obstructions met with below from the choaking sand†."

An act passed in 1794, for improving the outfall of the river Welland, better draining the low lands of South-Holland, and discharging their waters into the sea. The leading point in this scheme is to cut a deep canal, like the *Eau-Bank*, from the reservoir

\* Young's General View.

† Review of the Agric. Surv. of Lincoln, p. 142.



servoir below Spalding, capable of receiving the whole waters of the Welland, and conveying them into the Witham below Boston, by a lower and more certain outfall than the present, at Wyburton road.

A cut was also proposed to be made from a place, called Peter's Point, to Wheatmeer drain, near the Hamlet at Peakhill. This appears to be part of a scheme suggested by Lord Chief Justice Popham, in the century before the last, and afterwards partially acted upon by Vermuden, Colonel Dodson, and several other engineers, from that period to the present. The lying dormant of such plans for so long a time, portions only having been adopted, and few new ideas started respecting any thing more comprehensive, proves, that while other parts of useful improvements had been going forward towards perfection, the subject of Fen-drainage had for a long season been in a state of slumber; occasionally waked to small intervals of activity, but never roused to effectual energy. The exertions, however, which have, at times, been made, must not pass unnoticed. "In that long reach of fen, which extends from Tattershall to Lincoln, a vast improvement by imbanking and draining, has been ten years effecting. The first act passed in 1787 or 1788, and through a senseless opposition an extent of a mile in breadth was left out lest the waters should in floods be too much confined, and the other side of the river be overflowed; better ideas, however, having taken place, a new act to take in the river has passed. This is a vast work, which, in the whole, has drained, enclosed, and built, and cultivated between twenty and thirty square miles of country (including the works now undertaking.) Its produce before little, letting for not more than 1s. 6d. an acre; now from 11s. to 17s. an acre. It is subject to the tax of 1s. an acre to the Witham drainage, and not exceeding 1s. 6d. to its own. Land here now sells at 25l. an acre.

"In the northern part of the county the *drainage of the Ancholme* is another great work, extending from Bishop Bridge to the Humber, in a curved line; but by an act passed about thirty  
years

years ago, it was carried in a straight line through the level, for the purposes of draining and navigation. Before the draining it was worth but from 1s. to 3s. 6d. an acre; now it is from 10s. to 30s. much of it arable, and much of it in grass.

“The Lowlands that are taxed to the drainage amount to seventeen thousand one hundred and ninety-seven acres, the tax amounts to 2,140l. per ann. or 2s. 6d. an acre. It is now chiefly pasture and meadow; but the *cars* which were rough and rushy have been pared and burned, and sowed with rape for sheep, and then with oats for a crop or two; and on the better parts some wheat, then laid to grass: there is not a great deal kept under the plough\*.”

Though a great portion of the land in this district is very valuable, and much has been done to improve the rest; yet a large quantity still remains in an unprofitable state. It appears by Mr. Stone's account, and as he was one of the commissioners under the act he ought to be a competent judge, that the engineers were improperly limited by the act, to drain into the river Trent. The work was executed to the best of their judgment, and as well as the situation of the country would admit. In the execution of the plan 20,000l. were expended; and though now several years have expired since its completion, yet the desired effects have not followed. The floods of the upper, and the tides of the lower, part of the river have often overflowed the works, whereby the lowlands, comprising some thousands of acres, have, during the greater part of the year, been under water: and unless more effectual works shall be added, by means of steam engines or some other mode, to lift the water into the Trent, the most valuable part of the district will be absolutely useless for the purposes of grazing or agriculture.

Mr. Stone is of opinion also, that upwards of fifty thousand acres in Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, and Lincolnshire, which are now flooded, will ever continue to be overflowed until the present plan of draining into the Trent shall be given up. And he

\* Young's General View, &c. p. 241.



he further thinks, that an effectual drainage might have been accomplished by means of a new river, cut in a parallel direction with the course of the Trent, on the western banks of it; so that a certain competent outfall might have been obtained below Aldingfleet. And that the contribution of the Isle commoners, to the general expense of such an undertaking, would not have amounted to above a moiety of what they have already incurred in an ineffectual attempt\*. He next adverts to the drainage of what are called the *Low-Marshes*, which, besides thousands of acres of fen, contain a species of wet unproductive land, for which there is no drainage, bearing the appellation of *rotten-land*, because sheep depastured upon it are subject to the rot, and frequently are destroyed. A drain, with lateral cuts in the lowest line between the middle and lower marshes, carried to an outfall, which might be made near Wainfleet, would effectually, he suggests, drain this part of the north eastern district.

Mr. Parkinson has furnished a Table of the Improvements in Drainage, by different Acts, under which he was a Commissioner; which will serve to give some Idea of the Proceedings within a few years past.

|                                            | Acres. | Improved<br>Value. | Old<br>Value. | Improvement. |
|--------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                                            |        | £.                 | £.            | £.           |
| Tattershall Imbankment                     | 892    | 838                | 387           | 450          |
| Alnwick Fen.....                           | 1,097  | 703                | 54            | 648          |
| The Nine imbanked<br>Fens to Lincoln.... } | 19,418 | 15,534             | 1,941         | 13,592       |
| Holland Fen Eleven<br>Towns ..... }        | 22,000 | 25,300             | 3,600         | 21,700       |
| Total.....                                 | 43,407 | 42,375             | 5,982         | 36,390       |

From

\* Review of the Agric. Survey of Lincoln, p. 167.

From this statement, and some minor improvements, which fall under this description by various individuals, more especially Sir Joseph Banks, at Revesby; Mr. Young exults on the subject, and thinks wonders have been performed in this way, yet acknowledges, that "about Mavis, Enderby, Bolinbroke, &c. the wetness of the sides of the hills is lamentable; bogs are so numerous, that he is a desperate fox-hunter who ventures to ride here without being well acquainted with the ground. I have rarely seen a country that wants exertions in draining more than this. Many similar springy sides of hills are to be met with all the way to Ranby, and thence by Oxcomb to Louth\*."

This remark serves to illustrate a statement made by Mr. Stone, which, as it is unconnected with any details of particular spots, would otherwise amount to no more than mere assertion. "There are upwards of three hundred thousand acres of land at this time, 1800, in Lincolnshire, suffering at least on an average 300,000*l.* a year for want of an efficient drainage, which might be carried into effect for one or two year's improved value; and upon the borders of the county nearly the same quantity of land connected with it, capable of the same improvement by similar means. When this statement shall be explained, and the truth of the remark established, what will become of the table of forty-three thousand four hundred and seven acres†."

Though flattering prospects from past exertions are too apt to relax our present energies, yet a too great respect for our own views and capabilities should not make us fastidious, or induce us to disparage the laudable attempts of those who have preceded us, nor illiberally to undervalue the labours of others.

Whoever has travelled with an observant eye through the county of Lincoln, marked its peculiar situation and characteristic features, and made himself thus acquainted with its present state, and compared this with its appearance and productions in different periods

\* General Review, p. 245.

† Review of Survey, p. 133.



drained, and thus improved  
under, per acre, to 1l. 5s.  
upon lands of previous in-  
150,000l. per annum; not  
crued: the provisions have  
dered more salubrious; fens  
nating for months, inhabite  
rendered fit for grazing or th  
fluence of its ague giving water  
While health has been fostered  
and society greatly benefitted  
and at such an immense exp  
may justly be denominated  
views of a political arithmet  
that has attended this creatio  
number of people supported,  
the shipping employed, and  
fitted; the magnitude and im  
and the propriety well unders  
courage and facility to the

These remarks are judicious  
others of a similar kind made  
ciated by those most interest  
they relate. A plan has been  
under the direction of that ve

will be *effectually drained*; and the low lands of this part of the county, by this means become, as they actually are in many others, the most productive in the kingdom.

Mr. Rennie was employed, with proper surveyors, to view the situation of the abovementioned fens, the different drains, and out-fall gowts, which conveyed their waters to the sea,—to point out the defects of the then existing system, and the best methods of supplying them, or suggesting a new and better plan for a more effectual drainage of those levels. Upon this subject he printed his first Report in 1800, and with that penetration which marks the superior mind, and that comprehensiveness which evinces perspicuity of judgment; he quickly discovered the cause of the evils, which had been so long complained of after repeated attempts to remove them. Viewing their actual state, the remedy instantly presented itself. The first object which struck him was the out-fall; the second, the discharging the water which falls on the surface of the fens, or which arises in them; the third, the intercepting and carrying off the up or high land water, without allowing it to descend into, and overflow the fens. Each of these necessary points had at times been canvassed; but never generally and unitedly adopted in any previous system. This was reserved for the scientific mind of our present engineer, who, after describing the nature of these fens, divides them according to the usual mode; but from the levels, which were taken on the occasion, he was induced to place Wildmore and West Fens in one draining plan, and East-Fen in another. In the drainage of the former the outlet was made by Anton's Gowt or Maudfoster, the gates of which he found were too narrow for the quantity of water occasionally to be discharged through them; and that the sills of these, as well as those of the grand sluice, were too high for the level of the country, so as to admit, in their present state, of an efficient drainage, not to mention the want of attention to secure the water of the high lands from running into the fens.

Mr. Rennie then gives a scheme, first for draining Wildmore

Fen



Fen separately; then for draining Wildmore and West Fen jointly. Respecting these he remarks, That the present drainage is made through Anton's Gowl, about two miles and a half above Boston, and Maudfoster a little below it. The former of which, considered a most essential outfall, has a single pair of doors with a clear opening of fourteen feet two inches; an aperture not large enough to discharge the water usually conducted to it; and in time of flood it is over-ride by the Witham, which frequently keeps the doors shut for weeks together. The water which should discharge through them is forced back along Medlam drain, and West House sike, and is obliged to find a passage by other drains to Maudfoster. The sill of Anton's Gowl is two feet three inches higher than the sill of Maudfoster, and the surface of the water at different times considerably higher; whence he infers, that no effectual drainage of these fens can be made by any alterations, while the out-fall still continues at Anton's Gowl. Viewing it therefore in all points, and after giving a scheme for the separate drainage of Wildmore-fen, he concludes, That the general surface of the low lands of these fens, being about one height, may be drained by one out-fall.—That as their surface lies about nine feet above the sill of Maudfoster's Gowl, and the water on the sill at neap tides is only six feet, and at spring tides four feet nine inches, there will be a fall of three feet in the one case, and four feet three inches in the other; which he considers sufficient for the extent of level. He then proposes a cut to be made from Medlam-drain at Swinecoat's inclosure, thence to Collins's bridge, a length of eleven miles and a half; having a fall from three to four inches and one-tenth per mile. A straight cut was also to be made from the junction of How-bridge drain with Newham drain, to the drain proposed above to Collins's-bridge. This forms a line of thirteen miles, with a fall of two inches two-tenths per mile, during neap tides. Other drains are intended to be made, when the inclosures are laid out. It appears from this Report, that nearly twelve thousand acres of high lands drain their superfluous waters by the different *becks*, which

which pass through these fens, the quantity per day is often sufficient to cover the whole surface three-tenths of an inch deep; and in wet seasons much more. To discharge this Mr. Rennie proposed a catch-water drain, to commence near the Witham in Coningsby, skirting the high lands to near Hagnaby corner, there to join Gote-sike drain through Fen-side drain; and thence by a new channel to Maudfoister Gowt. The length from the mouth of the river Bain to Maudfoister Gowt is twenty-one miles, and the rise is little more than fourteen feet. This will give a fall to the water at the said Gowt of eight feet, or about four inches and a half per mile, but it may admit of five inches. He then proposes a new Gowt to be constructed near Maudfoister, with three openings, each fifteen feet wide; one of which to be appropriated, in times of flood, to the discharge of the waters conducted by the catch-water drain; but in ordinary cases these are to form a junction. This taking the water which fall or issue from 40,000 acres of land through Maudfoister, will cause so ample a scour, as to prevent the silt from accumulating to any great degree, and keep the out-fall in a proper and useful state. By this scheme also the drains are to be made sufficiently capacious to admit of such vessels as are generally used in the fens, being navigated upon them; for this purpose locks are to be constructed, to permit them to pass into and out of the Witham, and to form a communication with each other. Also, sluices with penstocks to admit of running water from the brooks to the fens, for the use of cattle during the summer months.

Respecting the drainage of the *East Fen* and the *East Holland Towns* Mr. Rennie observes, that some parts of these, at present, drain through Maudfoister Gowt, and others have separate Gows at Fishtoft and Butterwick; but part of the waters at Friskney are raised by an engine, and sent afterwards to sea by a small gowt. The general surface of East Fen is eight feet above the sill at Maudfoister, and but five feet six inches above that at Wainfleet; whence, as the distance is nearly equal from the centre, in the one case, the fall would be but one inch and five-tenths



per mile; and in the other much less; whence he concludes, that no efficient drainage, in the present state of Boston harbour, can be effected by either of those out-falls.

On mature consideration, Mr. Rennie thought the only effectual place, through which the East Fen and the lower grounds in East Holland could be drained, is a little lower than where the present Gowt of Fishtoft is situated. He proposes therefore a new gowt of larger dimensions to be made about a quarter of a mile below the present. From the level taken, through an extent of sixteen miles, the fall appears to be at the lower part two inches and a quarter per mile, and in the higher part five inches. A new drain is to be cut from what are called the Deeps, and turning southward to empty into the river near Fishtoft, about five miles below Boston. This, with proper side drains, Mr. Rennie thinks would form a complete drainage for the whole of this district, a few acres of the Pits or Deeps excepted. The high land waters he proposes should be sent, by a channel joining Fen drain at Shottles, to the Gowt at Maudfoster. The quantity of water descending from 38,424 acres will keep the Gowt open, and as there are but few obstructions from sands near Fishtoft, the out-fall will always be in good order; at least in the same state with the river itself at the proposed place.

This Report was printed April 7, 1800, and the estimates for carrying these grand schemes into effect is stated thus:

|                                               | £.      | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|----|----|
| Draining Wildmore Fen separately.....         | 29,702  | 0  | 0  |
| Draining Wildmore and West Fens jointly.....  | 103,262 | 0  | 0  |
| Draining East Fen and East Holland Towns .... | 81,908  | 0  | 0  |

By a revision of the schemes in the above Report, after the former levels were proved, and new ones taken, Mr. Rennie gave in to the Proprietors a second Report; in which, from having again surveyed the fens in a more favourable season, he is of opinion, that no material alteration can be made for the better, in the  
scheme.

scheme for Wildmore and the West Fens; but that some improvements may be made, not in the principle, but in the disposition of some drains in the scheme proposed for draining the East Fen.

It was judged proper to be thus particular respecting these Reports, because the grand works therein specified are now carrying into execution, and when completed will not only occasion this part of the country to wear a more cheerful appearance, and be highly advantageous to the inhabitants, but be a lasting monument of the spirit of the land proprietors, and the skill and ability of the engineer.

Amongst the many agricultural improvements, *Irrigation*, or the plan of watering meadows, so successfully practised in other counties, does not appear to have been pursued in this. Arthur Young mentions a solitary instance. But a plan of using water for fertilizing the soil is adopted, which is peculiar to this part of the kingdom, and principally practised in this county. This is called *WARPING*, and is a perfectly simple process. It consists in permitting the tide to run over the land at high water, and letting it off at low. It is very different from irrigation, for the effect here is not produced by water, but by mud, which is not meant so much to manure the land as to create a surface. The kind of land that is intended to be *warped* is of little consequence; for the warp deposited will, in the course of one summer, raise it from six to sixteen inches, and in hollow places more, so as to leave the whole extent a level of rich soil, consisting of sand and mud, of vast fertility. Its component parts appear to be argillaceous and silicious earths, with portions of mica, marine salt, and mucilage. Whence this warp is derived has been a subject of dispute, because the waters at the mouth of the Humber, when the tide flows, are observed to be transparent. But whoever examines the Estuary further inland, and the tides as they roll up the Trent, Dun, Ouse, and other rivers, cannot be at a moment's loss to discover the cause. The soil of the rich lands through which



| Wapentakes, Hundreds,<br>and Towns.                           | Houses. | Persons. |          | Occupations.                            |                                                   | Total<br>Persons. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                                               |         | Males.   | Females. | Chiefly em-<br>ployed in<br>Agriculture | Trade, Ma-<br>nufactures,<br>or Handi-<br>crafts. |                   |
| LINDSEY DIVISION CON-<br>tinued.                              |         |          |          |                                         |                                                   |                   |
| Brought over ....                                             | 19,791  | 48,301   | 49,509   | 26,418                                  | 12,756                                            | 97,810            |
| Bolingbroke Soke, East<br>and West .....                      | 1,343   | 3,231    | 3,394    | 3,303                                   | 634                                               | 6,625             |
| Bradley Haverstoe, Wa-<br>pentake.....                        | 1,327   | 3,418    | 3,575    | 1,692                                   | 649                                               | 6,993             |
| Calceworth, Hundred,<br>Marsh and Wold Di-<br>visions .....   | 1,482   | 3,562    | 3,713    | 2,148                                   | 476                                               | 7,275             |
| Candleshoe, Wapentake,<br>Marsh and Wold Di-<br>visions ..... | 999     | 2,651    | 2,797    | 1,690                                   | 473                                               | 5,443             |
| Corringham, Wapentake....                                     | 2,128   | 4,440    | 4,773    | 2,048                                   | 1,323                                             | 9,213             |
| Gartree, do. N. and S. Di-<br>visions .....                   | 912     | 2,427    | 2,361    | 1,424                                   | 222                                               | 4,788             |
| Hill, Hundred .....                                           | 427     | 1,214    | 1,129    | 898                                     | 142                                               | 2,343             |
| Horncastle, Soke.....                                         | 1,003   | 2,475    | 2,508    | 1,208                                   | 468                                               | 4,983             |
| Lawress, Wapentake .....                                      | 1,088   | 2,527    | 2,703    | 1,593                                   | 406                                               | 5,230             |
| Louth Eske, Hundred,<br>Marsh and Wold Di-<br>visions .....   | 1,986   | 4,655    | 4,869    | 2,173                                   | 761                                               | 9,524             |
| Ludborough, Wapentake ..                                      | 216     | 521      | 530      | 451                                     | 42                                                | 1,031             |
| Manley, do. 1st, 2d, and<br>3d Divisions .....                | 3,345   | 7,942    | 8,223    | 6,450                                   | 1,878                                             | 16,165            |
| Walshcroft, do. N. and S.<br>Divisions .....                  | 869     | 2,362    | 2,293    | 1,488                                   | 393                                               | 4,655             |
| Well, do. ....                                                | 462     | 1,073    | 1,098    | 1,204                                   | 271                                               | 2,171             |
| Wraggoc, do. East and<br>West Divisions.....                  | 855     | 2,279    | 2,248    | 1,749                                   | 326                                               | 4,527             |
| Yarborough, do. E. S. and<br>N. Divisions.....                | 2,682   | 6,293    | 6,465    | 3,849                                   | 1,343                                             | 12,758            |
| Lincoln, City .....                                           | 1,574   | 3,474    | 3,924    | 718                                     | 1,696                                             | 7,398             |
| Total                                                         | 42,489  | 102,445  | 106,112  | 60,584                                  | 24,265                                            | 208,557           |

In

## A TABLE

OF THE POPULATION, &amp;c. OF LINCOLNSHIRE,

As published by authority of Parliament, in 1801; with the names  
of the Divisions, Hundreds, Towns, &c.

| Wapentakes, Hundreds,<br>and Towns.                                                                                                                                               | Houses. | Persons. |         | Occupations.                            |                                                   | Total<br>Persons. |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                   |         | Male.    | Female. | Chiefly em-<br>ployed in<br>Agriculture | Trade, Ma-<br>nufactures,<br>or Handi-<br>crafts. |                   |        |
| <b>HOLLAND DIVISION</b> contains<br>3 <i>Hundreds</i> , 5 <i>Market Towns</i> ,<br>and 36 <i>Villages</i> .                                                                       |         |          |         |                                         |                                                   |                   |        |
| Elloe, Wapentake .....                                                                                                                                                            | 3,764   | 9,010    | 8,895   | 5,173                                   | 1,477                                             | 17,905            |        |
| Kirton, do. ....                                                                                                                                                                  | 2,106   | 5,097    | 5,282   | 3,517                                   | 661                                               | 10,379            |        |
| Shirbeck, do. ....                                                                                                                                                                | 808     | 2,007    | 1,935   | 1,430                                   | 174                                               | 3,942             |        |
| Boston, Town.....                                                                                                                                                                 | 1,252   | 2,698    | 3,228   | 91                                      | 866                                               | 5,926             |        |
| <b>KESTEVEN DIVISION</b> is subdi-<br>vided into 9 <i>Hundreds</i> and 3<br><i>Soke</i> ; which contain 7 <i>Mar-<br/>ket Towns</i> , & 190 <i>Villages</i> .                     |         |          |         |                                         |                                                   |                   |        |
| Aswardhun, Wapentake ...                                                                                                                                                          | 968     | 2,661    | 2,298   | 1,298                                   | 396                                               | 4,959             |        |
| Aveland, do.....                                                                                                                                                                  | 1,383   | 3,340    | 3,558   | 1,245                                   | 616                                               | 6,898             |        |
| Bettisloe, do. ....                                                                                                                                                               | 930     | 2,399    | 2,359   | 458                                     | 2,562                                             | 4,758             |        |
| Boothby, do. High and Low }<br>Divisions .....                                                                                                                                    | 1,062   | 2,632    | 2,655   | 1,883                                   | 352                                               | 5,287             |        |
| Flexwell, do. ....                                                                                                                                                                | 795     | 1,852    | 1,929   | 1,278                                   | 413                                               | 3,781             |        |
| Langoe, do. first and se- }<br>cond Divisions .....                                                                                                                               | 890     | 2,439    | 2,364   | 2,132                                   | 271                                               | 4,803             |        |
| Loveden, do. ....                                                                                                                                                                 | 1,177   | 2,899    | 2,999   | 2,267                                   | 528                                               | 5,898             |        |
| Ness, do. ....                                                                                                                                                                    | 1,034   | 2,476    | 2,545   | 1,785                                   | 562                                               | 5,021             |        |
| Winnibriggs and Threw, do.                                                                                                                                                        | 791     | 1,933    | 1,918   | 1,387                                   | 357                                               | 3,851             |        |
| Grantham, Town, and Soke                                                                                                                                                          | 1,457   | 3,377    | 3,637   | 1,455                                   | 1,124                                             | 7,014             |        |
| Stamford, Town .....                                                                                                                                                              | 701     | 1,826    | 2,196   | 106                                     | 2,198                                             | 4,022             |        |
| <b>LINDSEY DIVISION</b> is subdi-<br>vided into 15 <i>Hundreds</i> and<br>2 <i>Sokes</i> ; which contain 1<br><i>City</i> , 19 <i>Market Towns</i> ,<br>and 431 <i>Villages</i> . |         |          |         |                                         |                                                   |                   |        |
| Aslaoe Wapentake, East }<br>and West .....                                                                                                                                        | 673     | 1,655    | 1,711   | 914                                     | 201                                               | 3,366             |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                   |         | 19,791   | 48,301  | 49,509                                  | 26,418                                            | 12,758            | 97,810 |



population.—The amount of the whole expenditure, on account of the poor, appears to average at 9s. 8d. per head on the population.—The expenditure in suits of law, removal of paupers, and expences of overseers and other officers, amounts to 5,320l. 8s. 4½d. The amount of such expenditure, by the return of 1785, was 2,168l. 10s. 3d.—The expenditure in purchasing materials for employing the poor, amounts to 948l. 3s. 4¾d. The amount of such expenditure in 1785 was 479l. 19s. 9d.—The poor of eighteen parishes or places in this county are farmed, or maintained under contract.—The poor of the city of Lincoln are maintained and employed under the regulations of a special act of parliament.”

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LINDSEY, or as called by Bede, *Lindissi*, is the largest of the three DIVISIONS of Lincolnshire, and occupies nearly one half of the county, extending from the sea on the east, to Nottinghamshire on the west; and from the river Witham, which intersects the county from east to west, to the river Humber on the north. This area extends about forty-five miles, on an average, each way; and contains nearly 1,042,560 square acres of land. The soils are much varied, and its geographical features marked by many inequalities. High lands, called the Wolds, occupy a long ridge of it from Spilsby to the Humber, having a rich tract of marsh land to the east, between it and the sea; another ridge of high land, called Lincoln Heath, extends up the western side of this division from Lincoln to Brigg. The greater part of the latter district has, for time immemorial, been uncultivated, and appropriated almost solely to the breeding of rabbits; but within a few years past, most of it has been inclosed, and rendered subservient to more useful and profitable cultivation. At the north-western extremity is the river island of *Axholme*, a low tract of land, formerly a morass; but, from the operations of imbanking and draining, is now a very fertile spot. The river Trent bounds the

the eastern side of this island, whilst the rivers Idle, Dun, and Torn, environ the southern and western sides. The property of this district is divided among many small proprietors.

In the preceding tables is specified the number of hundreds, or wapentakes, which is included within Lindsey division; and it has been already stated, that the Bertie family derive the title of Marquis from the name of this district.

### LINCOLN,

An ancient City, and a place of considerable note in the ecclesiastical and military annals of England, is singularly situated on the top and side of a high hill, which slopes with a deep descent to the south, where the river Witham runs at its base. A large part of the city or rather suburbs, extends, in a long street, from the foot of the hill to the south. On the northern side of it, without the walls, is another suburb, called *Newport*, supposed to have been an outwork of the Roman station. Camden, and some other antiquaries, state, that this place was occupied as a station, or strong hold, by the Britons, anterior to the Roman colonization of the island; and that it then bore the name of "*Lindcoit*, from the woods, (for which some copies have, corruptly, *Lintcoit*).” By Ptolomy and Antoninus, the name of the place is written *Lindum*; and from having the privilege of a colony, was called *Lindum-colonia*\*. Bede appears to have identified the spot, by the names of *Lindecollinum* and *Lindecollina*; and in the Saxon annals it is called *Lindocollyne* and *Lindeyllan*.

\* “Towns of this class were occupied by Romans, and mostly by legionary soldiers, who received portions of land in the neighbourhood, as a reward for their services, and as an encouragement to be vigilant in suppressing any attempts of the natives to recover their liberty. Their constitution, their courts of justice, and all their offices, were copied from Rome; and the inhabitants were Roman citizens, and governed by Roman laws.”—Macpherson’s *Annals of Commerce*, Vol. I. p. 197.



*Lindeyllan-ceaster.* When the Normans took possession of Britain, they gave new names, new laws, and new arrangements, to all the cities and baronies; and this place was denominated, according to some writers, *Nichol*; but Mr. Gough doubts it, and says, "May one suggest a suspicion, that *Nichol* is owing to some misreading of *Incol*, or *Lincol*, or to the imperfect pronunciation of the Normans, as the French have disguised many proper names in later times."

Whatever may have been the character of this station, previous to its possession by the Romans, we cannot commence any thing like true history before that event; and even then we discover but little to excite interest, or gratify curiosity. As a military station, occupied by a colony of Romans, it must have been a place of some extent and consequence. This is manifested, by the vestiges that remain, and by the various discoveries that have been made at different periods. The form of the fortified station was that of a parallelogram, divided into four equal parts, by two streets, which crossed it at right angles. At the extremities of these were four fortified gates, nearly facing the cardinal points. The whole was encompassed by an embattled wall, which, on three sides, was flanked by a deep ditch, but on the southern side the steepness of the hill rendered a foss unnecessary. The area thus inclosed was about 1300 feet in length, by 1200 feet in breadth, and is estimated to have contained thirty-eight acres. The walls have been levelled to the ground, and the gates, except that to the north, have been for many years demolished. The latter, called *Newport-Gate*, is described by Dr. Stukeley, as "the noblest remnant of this sort in Britain, as far as I know;" and he expresses much surprise, that it had not "been taken notice of" before his time. The great, or central gateway, has a semicircular arch, of sixteen feet in diameter, which is formed with twenty-six large stones, apparently without mortar. The height is twenty-two feet and a half, of which eleven are buried beneath the ground. On each side of the arch are seven courses of horizontal stones, called springers, some of which

which are from six to seven feet in length. On each side of the great arch are two small lateral door ways, or posterns, both of which are now closed up. The diameter of each was seven feet and a half, by fifteen feet in height. In the great arch there appears to have been no key stone. A mass of the old *Roman wall* is still to be seen eastward of this gate; and to the west is another large mass, called the *Mint-wall*, which ran parallel with the town wall, and is described by Dr. Stukeley, as consisting of "a layer of squared stones, with three layers of brick, each one foot high, then three of stone for the same height, then three of brick, and twelve of stone, and then brick and stone to the top." It was about sixteen feet high, and forty feet long, and had scaffold-holes, and marks of arches. Mr. Gough thinks this was part of a Roman granary. Southward of the station above described, were other Roman works, which extended from the brow to the bottom of the hill. As the colony increased, this was necessary; and the southern side of the hill would be found more pleasant and temperate in winter than the summit. Besides, the river in the bottom would attract the inhabitants, when they felt themselves protected by a commanding and powerful garrison\*. It appears that a fortified wall, with towers at the corners, continued from the top to the bottom of the hill, where

\* The following are the *ROMAN ROADS* branching off from, and *STATIONS* connected with, *Lindum-colonia*. The *Ermine Street*, sometimes called *High Street* and *Old Street*, left the station on the north, and continued, nearly in a straight line, to the river *Humber*, on the southern bank of which were Roman settlements, or villas, at *Ad-Abum*, *Winteringham*, and *Horkstow*. About five miles north of *Lincoln*, another road, or military way, branched off from the former, at nearly right angles, and passed westerly, by *Scampton*, *Stow*, and *Marton*, where it forded the *Trent*, and near which was *Segelocum*. On the east of *Lindum*, the road called the *Foss-Way*, branched off towards the sea coast. The same road entered the city, on the southern side, and in a south-westerly direction communicated with *Crocolana*, probably at or near *Bruff*, in *Nottinghamshire*. The *Ermine Street* joined the last road near the southern border of the station, and communicated with the station of *Causennis*, supposed to be at *Ancaster*.



where it turned at right angles by the side of the river. These fortifications underwent several alterations and additions, during the various civil wars to which the place was subjected. Hence it is very difficult, if not wholly impossible, to define what is really of Roman origin, or of Saxon or Norman workmanship. It is equally perplexing to ascertain the time of establishing the first colony here, forming the station, building the walls, or extending the city. The Rev. Mr. Sympson, one of the vicars choral, has offered some conjectures on those subjects; and as they serve to illustrate a few points respecting the Roman city, I shall avail myself of some passages from his writings. In taking down the Roman wall, several coins have been found, belonging to the following Emperors—Fl. Vespasian, Nero, Carausius, Julian, &c. “From considering them, and the situation in which they were found, I conjecture that this wall was either built by Carausius, or built or repaired after the time of Julian. When Carausius assumed the purple, and bade defiance to the authority and power of Maximian Hercules, who was so exceedingly enraged against him, that he had endeavoured to assassinate him, we may reasonably suppose, that so vigilant and consummate a general would fortify himself in the securest manner; and this colony being of the greatest importance to him, from its situation near to the banks of that part of the Witham which continued the communication between the Carsdyke and another artificial canal called the Fossdyke to the Trent, for the convenience of carrying corn, and other commodities, from the Iceni, &c. for the use of the northern prætentures; it is not improbable, that he built the walls and gates of the old city. This was about the latter end of the third century.” From the various coins of Carausius found here, at different times, Mr. Sympson supposes, that Emperor resided here for some time. Among these was one of Dioclesian, with the reverse “PAX AVGGG,” which was struck in honour of the peace made by Carausius and Dioclesian, and Maximian. A *votive tablet*, with the following inscription, has been found among the ruins of the wall:—

M. LA

M. LA ETII  
F MAX CT  
M I

Mr. Sympson reads it as follows; "Marcus Laelius AETII Filius MAXIMO, CT (et) Maximo Iovi, and I suppose it dedicated to the Emperor Maximus."

In 1739, a discovery was made of three stone coffins at the south-west corner of the close, near the chequer gate. Beneath these was a *tessellated pavement*, and under that a *roman hypocaust*. "On the floor of strong cement, composed of lime, ashes, and brick-dust, commonly called terrace mortar, stood four rows of pillars, two feet high, made of brick, eleven in a row, in all forty-four, besides two half pillars. The round pillars being composed of ten courses of semicircular bricks, laid by pairs, the joint of every course crossing that of the former at right angles, with so much mortar betwixt the two semicircles, rather form an oval, making the pillars look at first sight as if they were wreathed; the square pillars are composed of thirteen courses of bricks, eight inches square, thinner than those of the red ones. The floor of the sudatory resting on these pillars, is composed of large bricks, twenty-one by twenty-three inches, which lie over the square bricks on the pillars, the four corners of each reaching to the centres of the adjoining pillars. On this course of brick is a covering of cement, six inches thick, inlaid with a pavement, composed of white tessellæ. The walls of this room were plastered, and the plaister painted red, blue, and other colours, but no figures discernible in either painting or pavement. This pavement, which is on a level with the testudo of the hypocaust, is about thirteen feet below the present surface of the ground: so deep is old Lindum buried in its ruins\*."

In 1782 another similar discovery was made near the King's Arms. This appears to have been also a *Sudatory*. On a floor, composed of two courses of bricks, and two layers of terrace

\* Camden's Britannia, by Gough, Vol. II. p. 257.



race mortar, stood a number of arches four feet high, their crown eight inches and a half thick, supported by pillars of bricks sixteen inches by twelve, which, as well as the arches, were covered over with two coats of mortar; and supported a floor composed of terrace and bricks, irregularly intermixed.—The intervals between the pillars were two feet three inches, two feet five inches, and two feet seven inches: several of the pillars were gone. To the north, beyond two rows of these pillars, whose floors rise one inch and a half from north to south, were passages, at the end of which the arches began again; but the discovery was pursued no further that way: for the external wall, which is six feet thick, of brick and stone intermixed, extends northward beyond the width of one arch; but how much further cannot be traced, the arches being broken in and filled with rubbish. Where the second set of arches commences was found a hole, that goes sloping up into the outer wall, beginning at the crown of the arches, and seems to have communicated with some part above. By the joints in the work it is conjectured, that the place with pillars, and the one with passages had been built at different times. On the south was an entrance, whose floor falls five inches, and is continued beyond the jamb. The surface of the floor is thirteen feet six inches beneath the pavement of the street, and seventeen feet five inches below the garden in which it is situated. Numbers of fragments of urns, pateræ, and other earthen vessels, but none very ornamental, were found amongst the rubbish; also earthen bottles terminating in a point, without any orifice. The external walls were built of stone intermixed with brick. The ruins of this hypocaust still exist, and are accessible at all times to the curious traveller.

In a communication made to the Society of Antiquaries, by John Pownall, Esq. published in the Tenth Volume of the *Archæologia*, is a description of an ancient place of Sepulture, discovered in an open field, half a mile due east of the east-gate of the ancient Lindum. Mr. P. says, there was found in 1790, in digging about three or four feet below the surface, a very curious

*sepulchral*

*sepulchral monument*, evidently *Roman*, and of some person above the rank of the lower order; but as the urn, which the sarcophagus inclosed, contained nothing but sand, ashes, and burnt bones, the æra of interment could not be ascertained. The *sarcophagus* consisted of a large round stone trough, of rude workmanship, with a cover of the same; both the stone and its cover had originally been square, but the ravages of time had so worn off the angles, as to give it the appearance of rotundity. Another stone of the same kind was found near it, of a quadrangular shape, evidently used for the same purpose, but without a lid or urn.

This, with many rare fragments of antiquity, were preserved by the Rev. Dr. Gordon, the Precentor of the Cathedral; who, in a letter to Mr. Pownall, dated March 2, 1791, gives an account of several *earthen and glass urns*, which were discovered in the same field, some of which were of singular shape. He also describes a room, twenty feet by sixteen, which was discovered in a quarry, about one hundred yards west from the other; the height could not be ascertained, but the bottom was about twelve feet from the present surface. The floor was covered with black ashes, and the walls bore evident marks of fire. Two skeletons were found lying on the floor, also a large stone trough capable of holding a man, but not of sufficient depth for the purpose of a coffin. This was probably a sarcophagus, in which, as Pliny informs us, in his *Nat. Hist. Lib. II.* that all bodies, previous to urn-burial, were accustomed to be burnt. The Doctor thinks the room might have been appropriated for the reception of bodies that were prepared for the funereal ceremonies. Suetonius in *Nerone*, and some other writers, have described similar places under the name of *Libitina*: where dead bodies were carried previous to interment.—“*Erat porro, Romæ porta Libitina per quam cadavera ad Libitinam efferebantur*.”

The same field having been broken up for the purposes of quarrying, several stone coffins of various shapes have at different times been discovered in the loose ground, which covers a substratum

of

\* *Lazius Comm. Reipub. Rom.*



of rock. From these and other circumstances, it is highly probable, that this was a Roman burial-ground for the great contiguous Muncipium; and continued so till a different mode of burial was established by the introduction of Christianity.

Fragments of Roman pottery were found here in 1786. They consisted of fine close clay, cleared of heterogeneous sand; and so baked as to preserve an equal hardness and uniform red colour throughout. Between the Castle and Lucy tower, on the side of Fossdyke, have been found some glazed earthen pipes, two feet long, and between two and three inches diameter, fastened together by joints. These formed part of a set of conduit pipes, for the conveyance of waters to the town from a spring on the high ground near. In a field north-east of the town was discovered another supposed conduit of the same era. About fourteen yards to the north of the Assembly Room was a large Well or cistern of very singular construction, called the *Blind Well*. It was built with neat walling; and at the top was eighteen feet diameter, narrowing towards the bottom. This has some years since been filled up.—Communicating with this, it appears, pipes were laid from a spring head, at the distance of forty-two chains. In a low ground, abounding with springs on the other side the hedge of Nettleham inclosure, are traces of a building, supposed a reservoir, whence, from under a raised bank, parallel with a balk pointing to the spring head, are pipes to another such bank, forming with it an obtuse angle. In the bank, or road, to which the first series of pipes point, are in places raised parts, which bear a strong resemblance to a Roman Rampart; and a remarkable excavation is said to have been discovered in it some years since, by the breaking in of a loaded waggon. The whole length from the mound to the second pipe is sixty-three chains and forty-six links, or nearly one thousand three hundred and ninety-seven yards. The pipes are about one foot ten inches long. They have no insertions, but are joined by an exterior ring or circular course, with an introceptive process of strong cement, like the bed in which the pipes are laid. Count Caylus, in his *Receuil d'Antiq.*

Tom. II.

Tom. II. describes a similar kind of aqueduct, which supplied Paris with mineral water from Chaillcot, in the time of the Romans. A plan of that at Lincoln is engraved in Gough's Camden. Within the area of the Cathedral cloisters is part of a Roman *tessellated pavement*, still preserved, and secured from the weather and injury by a small building erected over it.

In 1788, in the area of Lincoln Castle, was found a Roman vessel, nearly entire, three feet and a half below what appears to be the natural rock, and fourteen beneath the present surface. It was of black pottery, and one side of it was corroded. Another fragment of a Roman vessel, found in the rubbish of a Roman building within the castle, had been apparently gilt; and was, according to Governor Pownall, who furnished the account, of a different kind of clay to any Roman earthenware he had ever seen.

From these, and other considerations, it is not improbable, that the Romans or Romanized Britons had a fortress on the site of the present castle, before its erection by the Norman Conqueror.

Sir Henry C. Englefield, in a communication to the Antiquarian Society, describes an arch opening into the ditch, in a tower still remaining amid the ruins, which had escaped the notice of Mr. King, in his account of this structure. The tower fronts the west, having in the lower part a large semicircular arch, which is sixteen feet wide in the clear, turned with forty-five stones, each of which is two feet deep. Above, to the right hand is a small doorway, now walled up, having a semicircular arch, crossed by a transom stone in the Saxon style. This is six feet six inches high, by two feet four inches and a half wide. It led from the lower to the higher floor. To the left are two loop holes, covered with single stones, cut circular at top. It appears, that nearly eight feet of the original building is now buried beneath the surface. Up a hollow part in the rock went a flight of steps, which has been destroyed. The wall of the outer arch is five feet thick, but the



superstructure only four; having in the centre, a portcullis groove. Nearly the whole of this wall is composed of the Lincoln stone, of which a reddish and harder stratum has been selected for turning the arches both of the gateway and door above, for covering the beam holes, and for closing the loops. Its situation is precisely in the line of the Roman wall, and not far from the middle of the west side of it; and, as near as the eye can judge, is directly opposite to the site of the eastern Roman gate, which was destroyed some years since. The learned Baronet then observes, "The dimensions of the arch, its materials, its being so far below the present surface of the earth, and its situation in the line of the Roman wall, and opposite the east gate, would at once determine me to pronounce it the old gate of the Lindum of the Romans; did not some remarkable differences in this, from the north and south gates still existing, seem to discountenance the supposition. They have an impost, this has none. They are built of vast stones, this of rather small ones, (though the three thin stones on each haunch of the Newport Roman arch are very like those, which turn this arch) yet as the present castle, which was built by William the Conqueror, is evidently of more modern time than the tower, and the tower itself appears to have been of a date posterior to the arch in question, as appears by the different thickness of the walls, &c. I cannot help still thinking, that the Normans and Saxons both found this great arch built to their hands, and so, instead of destroying turned it into a postern, when they dug out the ditch and built a flight of steps to it. I must end by remarking, that the diameter of this arch is much greater than any other gate now about the city, the Newport having been only fifteen feet, and the castle great gate thirteen feet ten inches in the clear\*."

Soon after the Romans left the island, Lincoln, in common with other places of consequence, shared in the general calamities, which ensued, by the incursions of the Picts, Saxons, and Danes.

At

\* Archæologia, Vol. VI, page 379.

At what period the Saxons possessed themselves of this city does not appear in history. But so early as the year 516, or according to Mathew of Westminster, 518, Arthur having been crowned King of Britain, proceeded immediately with his forces against the Saxons, who had been ravaging the country under their leader, Colgern; who, on the approach of the British Prince, fled, and passed over into Germany, where having obtained fresh supplies of troops, and aided by Cerdic, the founder of the West Saxon kingdom, he again advanced, and carried on a depredatory warfare. Arthur obtaining advantages against the combined army pursued it towards Lincoln, which city was then besieged by the troops of Cerdic; who, on the arrival of the Britons, were compelled to retreat from before it.

Soon after this, from the successes which the invaders continually met with, Lincoln was probably in the possession of the Saxons. In those struggles it was that the old town was nearly destroyed, and that, as Leland thinks, "new Lincoln was made out of a piece of old Lincoln." The Saxons, for their better security, fortified the southern part of the hill with ditches and ramparts, walled the town, and erected gates.

A. D. 940, but according to the Saxon chronicle, A. D. 957, Edmund pursued the Danes into the north of England, defeated them, and recovered many towns; among which are mentioned Lincoln, Leicester, Stafford, Nottingham, and Derby; obliging them at the same time to swear allegiance to him, and to receive Christian baptism. Fresh supplies of troops coming over under Sweyne, the Danes over-ran the north, committed great devastations, and laid on the people most insupportable taxes. Sweyne dying at Gainsborough, was succeeded by Canute; who, A. D. 1016, laid waste the counties of Buckingham, Bedford, Huntingdon, Nottingham, Lincoln, and York. In this career, however, he was arrested by the valiant Edmund Ironside; but from a conspiracy in his army that prince was obliged to disband it, and seek refuge for himself under the protection of Uchtred his brother-in-law, Earl of Northumberland; from whom he was soon obliged to



retire to London, and his father dying, soon after his arrival in that city he was crowned king. The issue of the further struggles between him and Canute, it is well known, terminated in the division of the kingdom between them.

Lincoln, at the time of the Norman conquest, appears to have been one of the richest and most populous cities in England; and of great importance as an emporium of trade and commerce. The Domesday Survey mentions 1070 mansions, 900 Burgesses, and 12 Lagemen, having sac and soke. On the accession of the Conqueror to the throne, he appears to have felt that dread and insecurity, which ever attend usurped dominion; and having no hold upon his new subjects, but what principally arose from fear, he endeavoured by every precaution to prevent insurrection and revolt. Malcolm, King of Scotland, refusing in 1067, to give up Edgar, who had fled to him for protection, excited alarm in the bosom of the Conqueror; and numbers of the English flying to that country from the yoke of tyranny, tended to increase his suspicions. Convinced of the disaffection of many, and doubtful of more among his people, he ordered four strong castles to be built; one at Hastings, another at Lincoln, a third at Nottingham, and a fourth at York. In consequence of this a large and strong castle was erected A. D. 1086, on the ridge of the hill on which this city was situated. The ostensible design of it was, as a fortress to defend the city; but the more immediate and real object was to overawe and keep in subjection the inhabitants, whose numbers, wealth, and partialities the Conqueror viewed with a jealous eye. The building was 644 yards in circumference, and occupied the space on which had stood 166 houses. These are said to have been taken down to furnish room for its erection, and 74 more were at the same time destroyed without the limits, that the whole might be insulated, or stand alone.

In the reign of Henry the First a navigable canal was made, or enlarged, from the river Witham at Lincoln to the Trent near Torksey; and was probably the first canal of the sort ever made in England. This was about seven miles in length, and is at present

present called the Foss-Dyke. By this a communication was formed with the river Trent, and down that by the Humber to the sea. Thus being accessible for foreign vessels, and having also the advantage of an inland navigation, the city became thriving, populous, and wealthy. And, according to Alexander Necham, a poet of the age, "Lincoln was now stored with good things, and became the support of the neighbouring country." At this period it is related by some historians that it possessed a very large share of the import and export trade of the kingdom.

A. D. 1140, The Empress Maud coming over to England, to assert her title to the crown, and oppose the pretensions of King Stephen, she took up her abode at Lincoln, strongly fortified it, and amply stored it with provisions. This, she thought, was a place of safety, and conveniently situated for keeping up a communication with those persons who were friendly to her cause. Stephen hearing of it, marched quickly thither, closely besieged the city and took it. But the Empress had, during the siege, found means to escape. The King having possessed himself of the city, appeased the tumults of the neighbourhood, and finding the country quiet, he left a garrison, and proceeded to his army acting in other parts of the kingdom.

Shortly after this, in the same year, Ralf de Gernons, Earl of Chester, and William de Roumara, his half-brother, who had claimed the earldom of Lincoln, in right of his mother Lucia, sister to Edwin and Morcar; possessed themselves of the castle by surprise, and intended with their countesses and friends, to keep their Christmas there. The citizens espousing the king's cause, sent private intelligence to him, that the Earls were in an unprovided state and apprehensive of no danger; that it would be easy to secure them, and offered to assist in the enterprize. Upon this advice Stephen came by rapid marches from London, and invested the place on Christmas-day. The citizens rising in his behalf, seized and secured seventeen men at arms. The Earls knowing that the place could not hold out long, without the siege was raised, and the younger brother's liberty being necessary



for that purpose, Ralf broke through the enemies' guards in the night, reached Chester, levied his vassals, obtained assistance from the Welsh, and gained over to his cause his father-in-law, Robert, earl of Gloucester; and these joining their forces marched towards Stephen, who had now laid before the city six weeks. On their approach he prepared to give them battle; but an unlucky omen, and a worse disaster, happened that day to the king: the tapers he offered according to custom broke, and the pix, with the consecrated water in it, which hung over the altar at mass, augured worse. But what really led to the fate of the day was, the defection of Alan, earl of Richmond, who, refusing to fight, marched off before the battle began. Undismayed, and persisting in his resolution, Stephen dismounted, put himself at the head of his infantry, while the earl of Gloucester placed his troops in such a position, that there could be no retreat. Both armies fought desperately, but Stephen's cavalry being routed, he was surrounded by the enemy's horse; and though he behaved with the utmost intrepidity, his main body was soon broken, and himself taken by the earl of Gloucester; by whom he was conducted prisoner to the castle of Bristol. Stephen, was exchanged for Robert, earl of Gloucester, who had been taken by William of Ypres, and being released out of prison, and restored to the throne by capitulation, his affairs assumed a more pleasing aspect, Oxford and many other places yielded, Ralf, earl of Chester, sided with him, and delivered up his castles of Coventry and Lincoln\*; and here, A. D. 1044, he passed his Christmas. The deed of pacification drawn up between the Empress and Stephen, by which Prince Henry his son was to succeed to the crown; among other articles of agreement stipulates, That the castle of Lincoln should be put into the hands of Jordan de Bussey.

\* Simon of Durham testifies that Stephen entered Lincoln in triumph, having on his royal robes and wearing his crown, which was as new a species of pomp, as it was surprising and disgusting to the people.

† Carte's Hist. Eng.

sey, as governor; who, on taking possession, was sworn to deliver it to Prince Henry, or whom he might appoint, on the death of Stephen\*.

Lincoln having been made notorious in the contest between the Empress and that king, obtained a degree of consequence in the estimation of future monarchs. After Henry the Second had been crowned in London, Speed says, he was afterwards, in the year 1155, crowned at Lincoln. Rapin describes the event as having taken place at Wickford, an adjacent village, in A. D. 1158. But the date of Speed is likely to be right, as it is highly probable, that Henry adopted this measure among others, to secure the fidelity of his subjects previous to his departure for Flanders. Carte, however, says, that "it was probably on his return from the north, where he had been to meet Malcolm, King of Scotland, and at the festival either of Easter or Whitsuntide, that Henry wore his crown at Lincoln; not in the city, but in the suburbs, called Wickford, out of a prudent compliance with the superstitious notions of the people, who imagined that a king's wearing it within the walls was always the forerunner of some disaster."

In the time of Richard the First, Gerard de Camville possessed the castle, and had the government of the city and county granted him; but was dispossessed of both in the fifth year of that king's reign.

During the contentions between King John and his refractory barons, who were assisted by Lewis, Dauphin of France, this city was taken by Gilbert de Gaunt, who had been made by the usurper, earl of Lincoln; but the castle still held out for the king†. John having raised a powerful army, marched in the autumn of the year 1216 to relieve it. Taking the nearest way from Norfolk across the washes, he left in that dangerous pass, all his carriages, treasure, portable chapel, regalia, and other baggage.

Q q 4

gage.

\* Matth. Paris Hist.

† It was kept and defended by a noble Lady of the name of Nichole;



gage. This loss so affected him, that it hastened his death. Gilbert however had, in consequence of the king's approach, retreated, but hearing of his death, he reinvested the place, took it, and again besieged the castle. The Pope, taking the part of the young King Henry, by his Legate, solemnly execrated Gilbert and his abettors; and granted indulgences to all persons who would take up arms against them for the recovery of the castle. The earl of Pembroke, then Regent, soon raised a powerful army, and encamped at Stow, eight miles off. The numbers appeared greater than they were, by a well managed *ruse de guerre*. The noblemen and bannerets each of them had two ensigns, the one borne by themselves, or squires, and the other advanced among the carriages. This formidable appearance intimidated the confederate army, and prevented their coming to meet the English. In the mean time, Foulk de Brent, a powerful baron in the King's interest, threw himself, with a reinforcement, into the castle, and sallying out on the besiegers, attacked them in the rear, while the troops, with the Earl of Pembroke at their head, assailed them in front.

The French, under the Count of Perch with their abettors, and Gilbert's forces, made a resolute resistance to the sally, till the King's forces coming up on the other side, they were struck with dismay. They had previously shut the barriers, and endeavoured by every means to keep the Earl of Pembroke's forces from entering the city; but they fell upon the confederates with such fury, that almost all were either slain or taken prisoners. The Count of Perch retired into the church yard of the cathedral, where, refusing to submit to an Englishman, he was killed by a lance piercing the brain through his helmet. A few of the barons escaped; but the chief of them were taken, with about 400 knights, besides esquires; and of the inferior classes an immense number; many endeavouring to escape in boats down the Witham, were drowned; and others, flying in all directions, were put to death by the country people.

The riches of the confederate camp and city became spoils to the  
the

the King's army; hence the discomfiture was reproachfully termed *Lewis-fair*. Each royalist wore a white cross on his breast, on account of the battle being fought in the Whitsun week. It began at two o'clock, and ended at nine, "So expeditious," says Matthew Paris, "were the merchants in transacting the business at this fair." This battle, fought on the 4th of June, A. D. 1218, was the ruin of the Dauphin's cause in England, as well as that of the barons; and at the same time evinced the folly of the latter in accepting the aid of a French power to enable them to oppose their legal sovereign. Speed says, that in the fiftieth of Henry the Third, A. D. 1266, the city of Lincoln was sacked.

The castle and bail of Lincoln appear to have continued in the crown till the time of Edward the First, when Henry de Lacy died seized of them, and they passed, with other parts of his inheritance, to the Earl of Lincoln, and so became annexed to the duchy of Lancaster. John of Gaunt, Duke of that palatinate, greatly improved the castle, and made it his summer residence; having, according to a tradition of the place, built himself a winter palace below the hill, in the southern suburbs.

In the time of King Edward the First, A. D. 1301, a parliament was held here, to consult about an answer to the Pope's letters, in which he had prohibited the King from waging war against the Scots, who had previously resigned their kingdom to that monarch. In this the King and Nobles resolved, that, as the King's quarrel with the Scots was founded upon his just title to the crown of Scotland, no foreign power had a right to interfere; and a spirited remonstrance to that effect was transmitted to Rome: upon which the Pope relinquishing his prohibitory plan, the war was continued. Four years after this, the King kept his court here a whole winter, and held another parliament, in which he confirmed *Magna Charta*\*, and obtained a subsidy.

A parliament

\* A fine and perfect copy of this important national deed, is still preserved among the archives of the cathedral. This has been carefully copied, under the direction of Mr. William Illingworth, and is now engraving for the "Parliamentary Reports on the Public Records of Great Britain."



A parliament was assembled at Lincoln, by Edward the Second, to consider of the best means to be adopted for opposing the outrages of the Scots; and another was also holden at this place in the first year of the succeeding reign.

The contracted spirit of corporate monopoly so far prevailed here, against the acts of parliament passed in the years 1335 and 1337, and the King's resolutions to foster the woollen manufactures, that the weavers of Lincoln obtained a grant from Edward the Third, A. D. 1348, of what they considered and called their *liberties*. By this charter they were invested with the power of depriving any weaver not of their guild, of the privilege of working at his trade within twelve leagues of the city. This, and some other similar monopolies, were abolished in the year 1351, by an act called the *Statute of Cloths*. In the twenty-sixth year of this reign, A. D. 1352, the staple of wool was removed from Flanders to England; and the staple towns appointed on that occasion, were Westminster, Chichester, Canterbury, Bristol, Hull, and Lincoln. The latter was also made a staple for leather, lead, and various other articles. This proved highly beneficial to the place, for it thereby recovered from the losses it had sustained by military ravages, and was soon in a very flourishing condition. John of Gaunt being a widower, while resident at Lincoln, married, A. D. 1396, the Lady Catharine Swinford, then a widow. This apparently unequal match excited much surprise. But Sir John Hayward observes, that he "therein obeyed the remorse of a Christian conscience, without respect to his own unequal greatness; for having had several children by her in his former wife's time, he made her and them the only sufficient amends which the laws of God and man require." And further, in a parliament held the year following, the Duke procured an act to legitimate his children, and give them the surname of *Beaufort*.

Richard the Second visited Lincoln in the year 1386, and granted to the mayor (John Sutton), and his successors, the privilege of having a sword carried before them in their processions.

Henry

Henry the Sixth came here in the year 1446, and then held his court in the episcopal palace.

A rebellion breaking out in the time of Edward the Fourth, Sir Robert Wells, son of Lord Wells, out of revenge for the death of his father, whom Edward, after promising safety, had caused to be beheaded, took up arms, and raised a great commotion in the county. Collecting together about 30,000 men at Lincoln, he marched out, and fell upon the King's troops in the vicinity of Stamford, near which place a most sanguinary battle ensued, when Sir Robert, with Sir Thomas Deland being taken, the Lincoln men were so terrified, that casting off their coats, lest they should be impeded in their flight, ran away. This conflict is still called "*The Battle of Lose-Coat-Field.*" On this occasion it is said 10,000 were killed, and Sir Robert Wells, with many other persons of distinction, were put to death by the King's command. After the battle of Bosworth Field, King Henry the Seventh was at Lincoln, and here it was he first heard of the escape of the Lord Lovell, who had raised an army against him. After his coronation in the camp, he came to this city, where he spent three days in offering up public prayers and thanksgivings, and in making splendid processions, for the signal victory he had obtained over Richard the Third. In the year 1533, Cromwell, the minister of King Henry the Eighth, obtained an act of Parliament to enforce the reading of the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, in English. This was not agreeable to the common people, who, instigated by the monks, rose in various parts of the kingdom. A commotion was made by the men of Lincoln and Lincolnshire, under a leader of the feigned name of *Captain Cobler*. They amounted to nearly 20,000 men, against whom the King prepared to march in person, charging several counties to furnish a certain number of soldiers, properly equipped, to meet him at Ampthill. This being known to the insurgents, they sent to his Majesty a list of articles, or items of their grievances; and an humble request, that he would pardon their having taken up arms against him.

When



When the King had perused it, he pacified them by a courteous speech; and on laying down their arms, they received his most gracious pardon.

On the commencement of the civil war between Charles the First and his parliament\*, the King came to Lincoln, where he received, by Charles Dailson, recorder of the city, the assurance of support from the corporation and principal inhabitants; and having convened the nobility, knights, gentry, and freeholders of the county, his Majesty addressed them in an able and appropriate speech: justifying his conduct in the measures he had taken; exhorting them to join cordially with him in defence of their liberty and religion, and warning them against the consequences of the spirit of rebellion which had gone forth. This speech, delivered July 15, A. D. 1642, is published in the volume of *Reliquæ Sacra*, or Works of King Charles the First. In the month of July, the following year, a plot was discovered to deliver up the city, then in the hands of the parliamentary forces, to the King. For co-operating in this design, 2000 of the Queen's troops were sent from Newark before the walls of Lincoln, expecting, according to agreement, they should be admitted by Serjeant Major Purefoy, and his brother Captain Purefoy, who had, the day before, received about sixty cavaliers in disguise. And though an intimation of the plot was given to the garrison by the Mayor of Hull, on which the two Purefoys were seized, yet the cavaliers sallied into the town, and, before they could be suppressed, did considerable execution. Soon after

\* It is a singular circumstance, that although a very particular account has been given, by several authors, of the unhappy differences which subsisted between the people of England and their ill-fated monarch, at various other cities and towns, yet no mention is made of any events relative to that period at Lincoln, either in Camden, the *Magna Britannia*, or even in Clarendon's *History of the Rebellion*. Mr. Gough, in his additions to Camden, edition 1789, merely says, "The lower town having been taken by the parliament's forces, under the Earl of Manchester, the castle was stormed, May, 1644."

after this, Lincoln was in possession of the royalists; for, May 3d, A. D. 1644, the Earl of Manchester sate down with an army before the city, and, after meeting some little resistance, took the lower part of it, the besieged retreating into the Minster and Castle. These he intended to storm on the night of the 4th, had not a violent rain prevented him, by making the Castle Hill too slippery for the purpose. On the following day, receiving intelligence that Colonel Goring, with 5 or 6000 horse, was coming to relieve the city, Manchester resolved to carry the castle by storm that afternoon. But again being informed that they could not come up during the night, he deferred the attack till the next morning. In the mean time, Cromwell was detached, with 2000 horse, to cause a diversion of their rout. The infantry were ordered to lie among their works, that they might be ready when a signal for onset should be given. This was about two o'clock in the morning, when they instantly commenced a most furious attack. In the space of a quarter of an hour they got up to the works, though the King's troops made a gallant resistance, and soon were enabled to fix their scaling ladders. The garrison, at this time, desisted from firing, and threw down large stones on the assailants, which did much more execution than the shot; but the besiegers getting into the castle, slew about fifty; and the rest, intimidated, demanded quarter, which was immediately granted. Among the prisoners were Sir Francis Fane, the governor, Colonels Middlemore and Baudes, two Lieutenant Colonels, two Majors, twenty Captains, and about seven hundred private soldiers. One hundred horse, and eight pieces of Ordnance were also taken. Of Manchester's party, eight were killed, in which number were Captain Ogleby and Lieutenant Saunders; and about forty were wounded.

*The Diocese of Lincoln*, after the See was removed from Sidenham, soon acquired a vast accumulation of territorial jurisdiction and wealth. It took in so many counties, that it was described as ready to sink under the incumbent weight of its own greatness; and though Henry the Second took out of it the diocese



diocese of Ely, and King Henry the Eighth those of Peterborough and Oxford, it is still considered the largest in England.

As the jurisdiction was great, so, prior to the reformation, the revenues were proportionably abundant. Except the two archbishoprics, and those termed the *principality* bishoprics, viz. Winchester, Durham, and Ely, no see in the kingdom was so well endowed, which was the reason that there is no record, till the time of Elizabeth, of any Bishop of this see having been translated to another, except Winchester; though since that time, Willis observes, "no less than ten out of seventeen have left this for more valuable ones." Nor was it less remarkable for the number of episcopal palaces within the diocese. Before 1547 it had eight. In this county, Lincoln, Sleaford, and Nettleham; in Rutlandshire, Ledington; in Huntingdonshire, Buckden, the usual residence of the Bishops; in Buckinghamshire, Woburn, and Finghurst; in Oxfordshire, Banbury Castle; two more at Newark, in the county of Nottingham; and Lincoln Place, Chancery Lane, London. All these, except that at Lincoln, with about thirty manors, were given up, in the first year of Edward the Sixth, by Holbech, the first married bishop; who, for the purpose of gratifying the wishes of some courtiers, and raising his own family, exchanged almost every species of landed property annexed to the see for impropriations: so that now scarcely four manors remain of the ancient demesnes. The present revenues, therefore, principally arise from rectorial property or tythes. By the death of the Duke of Somerset, during the time of Holbech, the palace of Buckden reverted to the see; and in the time of Queen Mary, the estates were restored to Bishop White; but on his deprivation, A. D. 1559, they were again alienated by Queen Elizabeth. Madox, in his *Baronia Anglia*, says, "that the bishopric of Lincoln consisted of five knights' fees," which, if the knight's fee is fixed, according to Mr. Maseres, at 680 acres, will make its possession 3400 acres.

Introductory to an account of the Cathedral, and as tending to illustrate

illustrate many points of local history, I shall next relate a few particulars respecting the lives or actions of the

**BISHOPS OF LINCOLN.**—The account of these will be given in a chronological order, from the period of fixing the see here to the present time; and to each will be annexed the eras of their respective consecrations and deaths.

**ST. REMIGIUS DE FESCAMP**, who had been Bishop of Dorchester about eighteen years, became, on the removal of the see in 1088, (or as stated in the Lincoln MS.\* 1086,) Bishop of Lincoln. He founded the cathedral, which he brought to such a state of forwardness in four years, as to be ready for consecration, at which all the bishops of England were summoned to attend; but, two days before the intended solemnity, he died, May 6, 1092; and was buried on the north side of the choir of his cathedral, where a monument was erected to his memory.

**ROBERT BLOET, or BLOVET**, who had been chaplain to William the Conqueror, and was now chancellor to William Rufus, was consecrated in 1092. He finished the cathedral, dedicated it to the Virgin Mary, and greatly enriched it. Having presided thirty years, he died January 10, 1123, at Woodstock, (while on horseback attending the king), and was buried in the north transept of his cathedral, where a monument was raised to his memory. In his time the bishopric of Ely was taken out, and made independent of that, of Lincoln.

**ALEXANDER DE BLOIS**, Archdeacon of Salisbury, and Chief Justice of England, was consecrated July 22, 1123, through the interest of his uncle Roger, the celebrated Bishop of Salisbury. Having rebuilt the cathedral, which had been, in 1124, destroyed by fire, he arched it over with stone, to prevent a similar accident; and greatly increased the size and augmented the ornaments of it, so as to render it the most magnificent sacred edifice in his time. His extensive generosity obtained for him the name of *Alexander the Benevolent*. He died July 20, 1147, and was buried near the two former Bishops. This prelate, and his ambitious uncle of Salisbury,

\* Willis's Survey of Cathedrals, Vol. II. p. 542.



Salisbury, were much devoted to ecclesiastical architecture; and are said to have erected, or greatly enlarged, several magnificent buildings\*.

ROBERT DE CHISNEY, called also CHESNETO, and QUERCETO, who had been Archdeacon of Leicester, succeeded to the see of Lincoln in 1147. He built the episcopal palace, founded St. Catherine's Priory: and purchased a house in London, near the Temple, for himself and his successors. He died January 26, 1167, leaving the see much in debt through his munificence, and was buried in this cathedral.

The see having been vacant six years, GEOFFREY PLANTAGENET, natural son of King Henry the Second, was elected in 1173, and held it nine years, but never was consecrated; whence some authorities omit him in the list of bishops, and consider the see as vacant during that period. He discharged the mortgages of his predecessor; and, in 1182, resigned his pretensions to the bishopric; soon after which he was appointed *Archbishop of York*.

WALTER DE CONSTANTIIIS, Archdeacon of Oxford, succeeded to this see in 1183, but was the next year translated to the Archbishopric of Rouan, in Normandy.

After a vacancy of two years, HUGH, Prior of Witham, commonly described as ST. HUGH BURGUNDUS, was consecrated September 21, 1186. His piety and austere life obtained him universal esteem while living, and canonization after his death. His authority was so great, and his resolution so firm, that he ordered the tomb of Fair Rosamond to be removed from Godstow church, where it had been placed with great solemnity, by the king's command. This prelate enlarged the cathedral, by building what is now called the *New Work*. He also built that beautiful piece of architecture, the *Chapter-House*, and died November 17, 1200. The high estimation in which he was held, was evinced by two kings (John of England, and William of Scotland,) assisting to carry his body to the cathedral doors, where it  
was

\* See *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*, Vol I. in the "Account of Malmesbury abbey church."

was received by several bishops, who carried it into the choir, where it was buried, and enshrined\* in silver. This being pulled down in the civil war of the 17th century, Bishop Fuller set up a plain altar tomb over the grave.

Sanderson states, that the *shrine* erected to his memory was "made of beaten gold, and was in length eight feet by four feet broad, as is now to be seen. It was taken away by virtue of a commission, in King Henry the Eighth's time; in the thirty-second year of his reign."

Gough† says, "He had a magnificent shrine of pure gold, and a silver chest, in which his reliques were translated by the kings of England and France, 5th John, behind the high altar of his cathedral. This has been succeeded by a marble monument, erected by Bishop Fuller, between 1667 and 1675, with an inscription, which may be seen in Browne Willis's account of the cathedral. The monument, or shrine, commonly ascribed to him, and engraved by Dr. Stukeley, was supposed by Mr. Lethieullier to be that of Hugh, a child, crucified and canonized 40th Henry the Third." Mr. Gough here inserts Mr. L.'s account at large, in a letter to Mr. Gale, printed in *Archæologia* I. 26; and in vol. II. p. 1. Sep. Mon. p. lxxiii, &c. he gives a circumstantial account of the discovery of the coffin, skeleton, &c. of Hugh, a boy.

After a vacancy of three years, on account of a dispute between the king and canons, WILLIAM DE BLEYS, called by Leland *William de Mortibus*, precentor and prebendary of this church, was consecrated August 24, 1204. He died May 11, 1206, and was buried in the upper north transept of the cathedral‡. The see remained vacant three years more, when

HUGH WALLYS, or DE WELLES, was consecrated Dec. 21,

VOL. IX.

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1209.

\* A draught of the shrine is given in Dr. Stukeley's *Itin. Cur.*

† Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. p. 233.

‡ Mr. Gough seems to have made a mistake respecting this prelate. Having noticed the burial of Bishop de Bleys, he mentions that of *William Blesensis*, also



1209. He rendered himself conspicuous by his adherence to the barons against the king, for which, being excommunicated by the Pope, he was forced to commute the sentence by the payment of a thousand marks. He died Feb. 8, 1234, and was interred in the cathedral.

ROBERT GROSTHEAD, or GROSSETESTE, who had been Archdeacon of Chester, Wilts, and Leicester, and Chancellor of Oxford, was consecrated May 18, 1235. He was the most celebrated scholar of his age, and also a great promoter of learning. His writings were numerous, of which several in manuscript are now extant in the libraries of the universities; some were printed, a catalogue of which may be seen in *Anglia Sacra* II. 345. Having governed this see eighteen years, with singular wisdom and piety, he died October 9, 1253, and was buried, according to Godwin, "in the highest south aisle of his cathedral, and hath a goodly tomb of marble, with an image of brass on it." Mr. Gough gives a plate of this tomb, and says, "It appears to have been an altar tomb, with a border of foliage round the table, which was supported by circular pillars at the corners, but now lies broken and disordered on the floor. So imperfect is the memorial of this great prelate, a protestant in popish times, whose superior judgment struggled hard to break the ice of reformation in the thirteenth century\*."

HENRY LEXINGTON, dean of this church, was consecrated bishop May 17, 1253; died August 16, 1258, and was buried near the remains of his predecessor.

RICHARD DE GRAVESEND, also dean of this church, was consecrated Nov. 3, 1258; died December 18, 1279, and was interred

also Bishop of Lincoln, who died in 1206. This must evidently be the same as the former, for no prelate of the name of *Blasensis* is found in any other authority. This name may have been the latinised word according to the custom of the times.

\* Pegg has published an account of this prelate, in a quarto volume, 1793, entitled "The Life of Robert Grosseteste, the celebrated Bishop of Lincoln, with an account of the Bishop's Works, and an Appendix."

terred in the south aisle of the cathedral, near the last two bishops. The inscription, in Saxon characters, is still legible.

OLIVER SUTTON, another Dean of Lincoln, was consecrated May 19, 1288; he died suddenly, while at prayers, November 13, 1299, and was buried in the cathedral, near Bishop Wallys.

JOHN DE ALDERBY, chancellor of this diocese, was consecrated June 12, 1300. He was a man of exemplary piety, and esteemed a saint by the common people; who, after his death, which took place January 5, 1319, paid their devotions at his tomb and shrine, which were erected in the largest south transept of his cathedral, to which he had been a great benefactor by building. Mr. Gough says, "Both are now gone, being taken away in Leland's time, *nomine superstitionis*; but Browne Willis shewed the Society of Antiquaries a drawing of the shrine in 1722. The three stone pillars that supported it remain, having on their tops a kind of embattled bracket projecting, perhaps to support a candlestick." Mr. G. also relates, that in making a vault a few years since, the workmen accidentally broke into the stone grave of the saint, whence a patten, and some other articles, were stolen by the mason, and George Hastings, then verger; the latter was tried for the theft, and acquitted, but was dismissed from his situation; and the patten was deposited in the vestry. On laying the new pavement, in 1782, the grave was again opened, and finally covered with blue slabs taken from the old pavement.

THOMAS BEAKE, or *Le Bek*, canon of this church, was elected to the see January 27, 1319, but died in a few months, before he took possession, and was buried in the upper cross aisle of the cathedral, without any monument.

HENRY BURWASH, or *Burghersh*, prebendary of York, and brother to Bartholomew Lord Burghersh, was by the interest of the latter advanced to this see, and was consecrated at Bologne, July 20, 1320. He was a strenuous opposer of Edward the Second, to whose deposition he was instrumental. In the next reign he was Chancellor of England. Accompanying the king and queen to Flanders, he died at Ghent, or Gaunt, December 1340. His body was brought to England, and interred near the east end of



his cathedral, where a monument was erected; of which Mr. Gough has given a *platt*\*, and describes it as having "his figure in freestone, recumbent on a slab, bordered with roses and lions heads, with angels at his head, a lion and griffin at his feet. The point of his mitre is broken off; on the front of it a winged lion. He has on a rich robe, flowered with roses in quatrefoils and plain quatrefoils, and rich flowered shoes. On the north side, in five arches, ten sitting figures, in hoods and religious habits, praying, with a book on a desk between each pair; but only two have heads."

THOMAS BEAK, or *Le Bek*, prebendary of this church, a relation of the former bishop of the same name, was consecrated July 7, 1342; died Feb. 1, 1346, and was interred in the upper north transept of his cathedral.

JOHN GYNEWELL, GINDWELL, or *Synocra*, prebendary of this church, and Archdeacon of Northampton, was consecrated in 1347; died August 4, 1362, and was buried in his cathedral, to which he had been a considerable benefactor, by building the chapel of St. Mary Magdalen.

JOHN BOKINGHAM, or *Buckingham*, Archdeacon of Northampton, and Dean of Lichfield, was consecrated June 25, 1363. In 1398, the Pope, on some umbrage given, translated him to Lichfield, which was not half so valuable a see. This he disdained to accept, and retired to Canterbury, where he ended his days among the monks of that cathedral.

HENRY BEAUFORT, Dean of Wells, and half-brother to Henry the Fourth, was consecrated July 1398. In 1404, he was translated to Winchester, where he presided forty-three years. He was Chancellor of Oxford, several times Chancellor of England, and created a Cardinal by the Pope. He died April 11, 1447, and was buried in Winchester cathedral, where a stately monument was erected to his memory.

PHILIP REPINGTON, Abbot of Leicester, and Chancellor of Oxford, was consecrated March 29, 1405. He was a learned man, a great writer, and a cardinal. Preferring a life of retirement,

\* Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. p. 2, pl. 35.

ment, he voluntarily resigned his bishopric, in May 1420, and lived privately. He died about 1423, and was buried in the south aisle of the cathedral, where a marble tomb, with a brass plate, and the following inscription, serve to perpetuate his memory:—

*"Marmorea in tumba, simplex sine felle columba,*

*Repington natus, jacet hic Philippus humatus.*

*Flos, adamas cleri, pastor gregis ac prece veri:*

*Vivat ut in cœlis quem poscat quisque fidelis \*."*

**RICHARD FLEMING**, Canon of York, was consecrated in 1420. He founded Lincoln College, Oxford; and was so much in favour with the Pope, that he translated him to York in 1429; but this being opposed by the king and the chapter, the bishop returned to his former see. He died at his palace at Sleaford, Jan. 25, 1430, and was interred in a *chapel* which he built on the north side, near the eastern end of his cathedral. In the chapel is an handsome monument, with his figure in freestone, pontifically habited, and beneath is a stone figure of a skeleton in a shroud.

**WILLIAM GREY**, or **GRAY**, was consecrated Bishop of London in 1436, and of Lincoln in 1431; this see being then as much superior in value to London as it is now inferior. He died at Buckden, in February 1435, and was buried in the upper lady chapel of this cathedral. No memorial remains of him.

**WILLIAM ALNWICK**, Bishop of Norwich, succeeded to the see of Lincoln September 1436. He was a considerable benefactor to both these cathedrals; of the latter he built the stately porch at the great south door, and of the former the west front. He also erected the castle gate and chapel at Lincoln. Dying December 5, 1449, he was buried in the nave of the cathedral, near the western door.

**MARMADUKE LUMLEY**, Bishop of Carlisle, where he had presided twenty years, was translated to Lincoln 1450. He died

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\* Gough's Sepul. Monts. Vol. II. pt. 2. p. 76.



the following year in London, and was previously buried in the Cloisters, or Cloister Monastery, here.

**JAMES CRADDOCKE**, Archbishop of Wales, succeeded to the see of Lincoln in 1422; died November 23, 1471\*; and was interred in the south aisle of this cathedral, where a marble monument was raised to his memory, with an engraved brass, having a long Latin inscription. This prelate was a native of Gloucestershire, and made master of Queen's college, Cambridge, in 1446.

**THOMAS WYTT**, known by the name of Rotherham, Bishop of Rochester, Chancellor of Cambridge, Keeper of the Privy Seal, and Lord Chancellor, was translated to Lincoln in 1471; and thence to York in 1490, when

**JOHN RECOLL**, Bishop of Rochester, was translated to this see. He was the first fixed Chancellor of the University of Oxford; as before his time the office was filled by annual election. This prelate was Lord Chancellor in the time of Richard the Third, and is highly spoken of for learning and piety, by Sir Thomas More, in his history of that king. He added a chapel to the cathedral, and built great part of the episcopal palace at Buckden, in 1490. He died at Nettleham, Jan. 30, 1494, according to the register of that church; and was buried in the cathedral. Near the south door of the chanter's aisle is an altar tomb, and untraced arch, with a chapel behind it, dedicated to St. Blase.

**WILLIAM SMITH**, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, was translated to Lincoln, November 1495. While Chancellor of the University of Oxford, he laid the foundation of Brazen-nose College, but died before he had finished it, Jan. 2, 1513; and was buried near the west door of the cathedral. His Will contains many curious bequests of vestments, books, &c. to the chapel of Brazen-nose college.

**THOMAS WOLSEY**, dean of this church, was consecrated bishop, March 26, 1514; but being in high favour with the Pope and

\* Mr. Gough has it, "Dec. 1, 1471."

and the King, he was within a few months translated to the Archbishopal See of York, and afterwards advanced to the dignities of Cardinal and Lord Chancellor, in which characters he stands particularly distinguished in the annals of this kingdom.

WILLIAM ATWATER, Dean of Salisbury, and Chancellor of Lincoln, was consecrated, Nov. 12, 1514; died at his palace at Woburn, Feb. 4, 1520; and was buried in the nave of this cathedral, where was a marble tomb, with an inscription on a brass plate.

JOHN LONGLAND, Dean of Salisbury, was consecrated May 3, 1521. He was esteemed a man of great learning, and a popular preacher; but generally blamed for taking advantage of his situation, as Confessor to Henry the Eighth, to promote the divorce between that monarch and his Queen Catherine. This prelate greatly improved the *palace at Woburn*; and built a chapel in the cathedral, in imitation of Bishop Russell's, with a similar tomb for himself; but dying at Woburn, May 7, 1547, he was privately interred in Eton College chapel. In his time King Henry seized on the treasures of Lincoln cathedral, and forced the bishop to surrender part of his lands.

HENRY HOLBECH, D.D. who, for his pliant concurrence in the arbitrary measures of Henry the Eighth, had been advanced to the See of Rochester, and was thence translated in 1547, 1 Edward the Sixth, to Lincoln, on condition that he should give up the episcopal estates, to which he readily agreed; and before he had been a month in possession, he confiscated in one day all the principal manors annexed to the see. The list may be seen in the patent, printed in Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. XV. p. 66. By these alienations, this bishopric, from one of the richest, became one of the poorest in the kingdom; and its remaining revenue was rendered still more insignificant, by its consisting only of the impropriations of small livings. He also gave up for ever the episcopal palace at London, and whatever else the court required, leaving his successors no other residence than the palace at Lincoln. In the first year of his translation the *spire* of the



cathedral, reputed higher than that of Salisbury, fell down. He died Aug. 2, 1551, and was privately buried in the cathedral.

JOHN TAYLOR, dean of this church, was advanced to the bishopric, June 26, 1552; but, being a zealous protestant, was deprived of his see by Queen Mary.

JOHN WHITE, Prebendary of Winchester, and Warden of Wickam's college there, was consecrated bishop of Lincoln, April 1, 1554. In 1556, he was translated to the see of Winchester.

THOMAS WATSON, Dean of Durham, and Master of St. John's college, Cambridge, succeeded to this see, being consecrated, Aug. 15, 1557. He obtained restitution of part of the plate and other ornaments of which his cathedral had been deprived; and also procured for the see several estates, instead of those which had been surrendered by Bishop Holbeck, and the patronage of many benefices, which had belonged to religious houses, but on the dissolution was vested in the crown. On the accession of Elizabeth, and the re-establishment of the reformation, Bishop Watson, being a strenuous papist, was deprived of his see, and committed to close confinement in or near London, for twenty years, when he was removed to Wisbech, where he died, in 1584.

On the deprivation of Bishop Watson, NICHOLAS BULLINGHAM, archdeacon of this church, was consecrated bishop, January 21, 1559. Having surrendered all that his predecessor had obtained for this see, he was translated to that of Worcester in 1570. On the 24th of February, in the same year,

THOMAS COOPER, Dean of Oxford, was consecrated, and translated in 1583 to Winchester, where he died, April 29, 1594.

WILLIAM WICKHAM, dean of this church, succeeded Bishop Cooper in the see, December 6, 1584, and in that of Winchester, February 22, 1594; but died June 11, following, before he had taken possession of the latter bishopric. He was buried in the church of St. Mary Overy, in the borough of Southwark.

WILLIAM CHADERTON, Bishop of Chester, was translated to

to Lincoln, April 5, 1595; died April 11, 1608, and was obscurely buried at Southhoe, within a mile of his palace at Buckden.

WILLIAM BARLOW, Bishop of Rochester, was removed thence to this see, July 21, 1608; he died September 7, 1613, at his palace at Buckden, where he was privately interred.

RICHARD NEALE, who had been Bishop of Rochester, and afterwards of Lichfield and Coventry, was translated to Lincoln, in 1614. He was removed to the see of Durham in 1617, to that of Winchester in 1627, and lastly to York in 1631.

GEORGE MONTAIGNE, Dean of Westminster, succeeded Bishop Neale in the see of Lincoln, Dec. 14, 1617, whence he was translated to London 1621, thence to Durham, and afterwards advanced to the See of York.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Dean of Westminster, and Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, was consecrated bishop of Lincoln, Nov. 17, 1621. He contributed largely to the repairs of the palaces at Lincoln and Buckden. In 1641 he was translated to York.

THOMAS WINNIFFE, Dean of St. Paul's, was consecrated, February 6, 1642. In the civil commotions of the ensuing years, his palaces were destroyed, and all the revenues and temporalities of the see sequestered and plundered. On which he retired to Lamborn, where he discharged the duty of a parish minister, died September 19, 1654, and was there buried.

On the restoration of monarchy and episcopacy, ROBERT SANDERSON, prebendary of this church, was consecrated, October 28, 1660; but enjoyed his dignity only two years, dying January 29, 1663. He was buried in the chancel of Buckden church. Though a man of universal learning, he was particularly skilled in antiquities and heraldry, and assisted Sir William Dugdale in his ecclesiastical researches.

BENJAMIN LANCY, Bishop of Peterborough, was translated to Lincoln 1663, and thence, in 1667, to Ely, where he died, January 24, 1674, and was buried in that cathedral.

WILLIAM FULLER, Bishop of Limerick, in Ireland, succeeded



ceeded to this see in 1667. Having devoted much time and money to the ornamenting his cathedral, he died, April 22, 1675, and was interred behind the high altar, where a monument was erected to his memory.

THOMAS BARLOW, Archdeacon of Oxford, was consecrated, June 27, 1675. Being a rigid Calvinist, and consequently no friend to episcopacy, he never personally visited any part of his diocese, nor was ever at Lincoln; on which account he was commonly called Bishop of Buckden, where he chiefly resided. He was also remarkable for his temporizing conduct at the revolution; though apparently zealous for King James while on the throne, yet on his abdication, no one took a more decided part against him, or was more forward in ejecting the clergy who scrupled to take the oaths. He died October 8, 1691, and was buried in Buckden church.

THOMAS TENNISON, Archdeacon of London, was consecrated, January 10, 1692. In 1694 he succeeded Dr. Tillotson as Archbishop of Canterbury; died at Lambeth palace, December 14, 1715, and was buried in the parish church there.

JAMES GARDINER, sub-dean of this cathedral, was consecrated March 10, 1694; departed this life March 1, 1705, and was buried in the cathedral, under a raised marble monument.

WILLIAM WAKE, Dean of Exeter, was consecrated October 21, 1705; and on the death of Dr. Tennison, in 1715, was advanced to the Archiepiscopal see of Canterbury.

EDMUND GIBSON, Archdeacon of Surrey, succeeded to this see by the special recommendation of his immediate predecessor, Bishop Wake; was consecrated February 12, 1715, and translated to the see of London in 1723.

RICHARD REYNOLDS, Bishop of Bangor, was translated to Lincoln 1723; and died January 15, 1740.

JOHN THOMAS, Bishop elect of St. Asaph, was translated to the see of Lincoln in 1740, and thence to that of Salisbury in 1761, when

JOHN GREEN, dean of this church, succeeded to the bishopric  
in







*Engraved by J. Smith from a drawing by J. Stoddart for the Director of Engraving & Printing.*

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL — WEST FRONT.

*London: Published by W. Wood, Printers, Pall Mall. 1827.*

in 1761. He was appointed Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's in 1771, and died in 1779. The same year

THOMAS THURLOW, brother to the lord chancellor of that name, and Dean of Rochester, was advanced to the see of Lincoln; appointed Dean of St. Paul's in 1781; and in 1787 translated to the see of Durham. He was succeeded in the Bishopric of Lincoln and Deanery of St. Paul's by

GEORGE PRETTYMAN TOMLINE, D. D. F. R. S. &c. who now holds those dignities.

The CATHEDRAL, or as it is usually called, the MINSTER, is justly the pride and glory of Lincoln. This magnificent building, from its situation on the highest part of a hill, and the flat state of the country to the south-east and south-west, may be seen at the distance of twenty miles. Raised at a vast expence, by the munificence of several prelates, it discovers in many parts singular skill and beauty; particularly its western front, which cannot fail to attract the attention of the most unobservant traveller. And of all the ancient fabrics of this description now remaining in England, no one deserves the attention of a curious enquirer more than this, "whose floor," says Fuller in his humorous style, "is higher than the roof of many churches." It may be said to be a building proportioned to the amplitude of the diocess; and is justly esteemed one of the most extensive and regular of its kind, notwithstanding it was erected at different periods, and has undergone various alterations in later times. After the see was removed to this place, the new bishop, Remigius, according to Henry of Huntingdon, "purchased lands on the highest parts of the city, near the castle, which made a figure with its strong towers, and built a church, strong and fair, in a strong place and in a fair spot, to the Virgin of Virgins, in spite of all the opposition from the Archbishop of York, who laid claim to the ground, placing in it forty-four prebendaries. This afterwards being damaged by fire, was elegantly repaired," by that munificent and pious Bishop of Lincoln, Alexander.



ander. The first foundations were laid in the year 1086, by Bishop Remigius, and the building was continued by him and his successor, Robert Bloet. Soon after the death of this bishop, the church is said to have been burnt down\* about A. D. 1127; and rebuilt by Bishop Alexander, his successor, with an arched stone roof, to prevent the recurrence of a like accident in future; and it is stated, that he set his whole mind upon adorning his new cathedral, which he made the most magnificent at that time in England. But though thus rendered pre-eminent for size and decoration, it was made more elegant, &c. by St. Hugh of Burgundy, in the time of Henry the Second. This prelate added several parts, which were then named the *New Works*†. To shew what these consisted in, and the periods when different alterations and additions were made to this structure, I shall transcribe a passage from the ninth volume of the *Archæologia*, the substance of which appears to have been derived from the archives of the cathedral.

"A. D. 1124. The church was burnt down. Bishop Alexander is, in the historical accounts given to the public, said to have rebuilt it with an arched roof, for the prevention of the like accident. But John de Scalby, Canon of Lincoln, and Bishop Dalderby's registrar and secretary, says of Robert de Chesney (who succeeded Alexander), that he—"Primus Ecclesiam voltis lapideis communivit, 1147."

"1186. John de Scalby says of Hugh the Burgundian, Bishop of Lincoln, that he "fabricam ecclesiæ a fundamentis construxit novam." This can relate only to alterations and repairs of the old church, for the new east end was not begun to be built till 120 years after."

"1244-5

\* Mr. Gough says, "only damaged."

† It appears, from various documents, that all additions made to ancient structures were called *New Works*. Various alterations, &c. were made at Ely cathedral, nearly at the same periods that others were making at Lincoln, and they are all called *New Works*, or "*Nova Opera*."

"1244-5. The great *tower* fell down, and greatly damaged the church. Very little was done to repair this disaster, till the time of Oliver Sutton, elected Bishop, 1279. The first thing which he set about, was extending the Close wall, but not so far to the east as it now is, for it was, as will be seen, further enlarged; and he afterwards completely repaired, in concurrence with the dean and chapter, the old church; so that the whole was finished, painted, and white-washed, after the year 1290. When this work was done, the great tower was carried up no higher than to the part where the large windows begin, and where the bells now hang. The upper part was, with the other new work, begun sixteen years after."

"1306. The dean and chapter contracted with *Richard de Stow*, mason, to attend to, and employ other masons under him, for the new work; at which time the new additional *east end*, as well as the upper parts of the great tower and the transepts were done. He contracted to do the plain work *by measure*, and the fine carved work and images *by the day*."

"1313. The dean and chapter carried the close still further eastward, so as to enlarge the canon's houses and mansions, the chancellor's, and other houses at the east end of the minster yard."

"1321. In this year the *new work* was not finished; for Bishop Burghwash, finding that those who were entrusted to collect the money given by voluntary contribution, and legacies to the church, detained the same, and were backward in their payments, published an excommunication against all offenders in this way, which tended, "in retardationem fabricæ."

"1324. It may be collected, the whole was finished about 1324; but this is no where specified. The late Bishop of Carlisle, Dr. Lyttleton, conjectured, that all was finished about 1283. Conjecturers are led into this mistake by supposing, that the work was finished soon after King Henry the Third's charter, granted *for enlarging the church and close*."

"1380. John Welburn was treasurer. He built the tabernacle



nacle at the high altar, the north and east parts as now standing; and the south was rebuilt after, to make the north and south sides uniform. He was *master of the fabric*, and the principal promoter of making the two stone arches under the west towers, and the vault of the high tower; and caused the statues of the kings over the west great door to be placed there."

"N. B. This *new work* is all of the regular order of Gothic architecture, as I have supposed it to be finally established by the Free Masons. The rest of the church is in part the opus romanum, and partly of the style of the first essays of the Gothic." Communicated by Mr. Bradley to Governor Pownall.

These notices are important; for it is interesting to ascertain the dates, &c. of such ancient buildings as are beautiful or grand. The one now under consideration presents, in its different parts, both these characteristics; the principal of which I shall endeavour to describe and particularize.

The cathedral church consists of a nave, with its aisles, a transept at the west end; and two other transepts, one near the centre, and the other towards the eastern end: also, a choir and chancel with their aisles of corresponding height and width with the nave and aisles. The great transept has an aisle towards the east; attached to the western side of this transept, is a gallilee, or grand porch; and on the southern side of the eastern aisle are two oratories, or private chapels, whilst the north side has one of nearly similar shape, and character. Branching from the northern side, are the cloisters, which communicate with the chapter house. The church is ornamented with three towers; one at the centre, and two at the western end. These are lofty, and are decorated with varied tracery, pillars, pilasters, windows, &c. To furnish the reader with an adequate idea of the *dimensions and general size* of this structure, I subjoin the following table; the measurements for which were made by Mr. T. Espin, of Louth; and I believe are more accurate than any hitherto published.

The *height* of the two *western towers*, 180 feet. Previous to the year 1808, each of these was surmounted by a central *spire*  
the

the height of which was 101 feet. The *great tower* in the middle of the church, from the top of the corner pinnacle to the ground, is 300 feet; its width is 53 feet. *Exterior length* of the church, with its buttresses, 524 feet; interior length, 482 feet; width of *western front*, 174 feet; exterior length of *great transept*, 250 feet; and interior, 222 feet; the width is 66 feet. The lesser or *eastern transept*, is 170 feet in length, and 44 in width, including the side chapels. Width of the cathedral 80 feet; *height* of the vaulting of the nave, 80 feet. The chapter-house is a decagon, and measures, interior diameter, 60 feet 6 inches. The cloisters measure 118 feet on the north and south sides, and 91 feet on the eastern and western sides.

Such are the principal measurements of this spacious fabric; to describe the whole of which would occupy a volume. Therefore, in the following particulars, I can only advert to, and notice a few of its prominent features.

Though it will not be an easy task to define and discriminate all the remaining portions of Remigius's and Alexander's buildings, yet there are some parts which may be confidently referred to as the works of those prelates. The *grand western front*, wherein the greatest variety of styles prevail, is certainly the workmanship of three, if not more, distinct and distant eras. This is apparent to the most cursory observer; and on minute inspection by the discriminating architect and antiquary is very decisively displayed. This portion of the fabric consists of a large square-shaped façade; the whole of which is decorated with door-ways, windows, arcades, niches, &c. It has a pediment in the centre, and two octangular stair-case turrets at the extreme angles, surmounted by plain spire-shaped pinnacles. This front may be described as divided into three distinct, though not separated parts; a centre and its two lateral sides. The first presents three perpendicular divisions, and three others from the bottom to the top. In the lowest are three door-ways, a large one in the centre, which directly opens to the nave, and two smaller ones facing the side aisles. These arches are semicircular,



cular, with various architrave mouldings, ornamented with carved figures, foliage, &c. and on each side are columns which are also decorated with sculpture. These door-ways are of handsome proportions, and the sculpture is but little mutilated. On each side of the two small doors is a large niche under a semicircular arch, above which are some pieces of ancient emblematical sculpture in relief. Over the great western door-way are some statues of kings, &c. under decorated canopies, and above them is the large western window, with mullions and tracery; a circular window, with a cinque-foil mullion, is seen above this; at the sides of which the flat wall is ornamented with a sort of trellis work, or lozenge-shaped tracery. This facing prevails in the lateral gables, north and south of the two western towers; also within the towers. The general shape and ornaments of the western front will be understood by reference to the annexed plate, from a drawing by Buckler.

The upper transept, and the choir, appear the next in point of date. These are in the sharp-pointed or early English style; and their architecture is very irregular, having pillars with detached shafts of purbeck marble, in different forms, but all very light; those on the sides of the choir have been formerly strengthened. Some of the arches are high and pointed, others obtuse, with straight upright lines above their imposts; a few small arches are semicircular, and many are of the trefoil-shape. The vaulting is generally simple, the ribs of a few groins only have a billeted moulding; a double row of arches or arcades, one placed before the other, is continued round the inside, beneath the lower tier of windows. The windows, which are lofty and narrow, are placed two or three together: the greater buttresses in front are ornamented in a singular manner, with detached shafts, terminating in rich foliage; the parapet is covered with lead, and the ailes have a plain stone parapet, with a billeted moulding underneath. Some of the sculpture is well executed; but the arches and mouldings are very imperfect. This part of the fabric was probably built by

Bishop

Bishop St. Hugh. The great transept, the *gallilee porch*\*, and the vestry are nearly of the same, but in a later style. The vestry is vaulted, the groining having strong ribs; and beneath it is a crypt, with groins, converging into pointed arches.

The nave and central tower were next rebuilt, probably begun by Hugh de Wells, as the style of their architecture is that of the latter part of the reign of John, or the beginning of Henry the Third. It seems to have been carried on from the west, as the two arches next that end are narrower than the others; perhaps they stand on the old bases. The clustered pillars of the nave are not uniform, some being worked solid, and others having detached shafts: the upper windows are clustered three together, and two are included within each arch of the aisles. The lower part of the north wall is plainer than the south, whence it may be concluded that this was built first. Part of the great tower was erected by Bishop Grossthead, who also finished the additions, which had been begun to the old west front; for there is the same fascia or moulding under the uppermost story as is continued twice round the rood tower, and altered it to its present form. The part extending from the smaller transept to the east end, was probably built by Bishops Gravesend, Sutton, and d'Alderby, about the conclusion of the thirteenth, or commencement of the fourteenth century. Over the south porch, which is highly ornamented, is a representation of the final judgment, in bold relief. The lower windows have slender clustered pillars, with capitals; and the heads are ornamented with circles, cinque-foils, and other devices: but the large east window does not correspond in richness with the other component parts. The upper windows have double mullions; and a gallery runs between the upper and lower tiers. Bishop d'Alderby built the upper story of the rood tower, and added a lofty spire, which

VOL. IX.

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was

\* This is said to have been formerly appropriated to the use of probationary penitents, previous to their being re-admitted into communion with the faithful.



was constructed of timber, and covered with lead. This was blown down in a violent storm of wind, A. D. 1547; and the damages then sustained, were not wholly repaired till the year 1775.

Bishop Alnwick probably raised the western towers, and erected the wood spires, the taking down of which, lately by the dean and chapter, has provoked much splenetic animadversion. He added also, the three west windows, and the figures of our kings, from the conquest to Edward the Third. The arch of the centre window is much older than its mullions. The ceilings of the towers, and facing of the interior parts of the three west entrances, are of the same age. The great marigold window at the south end of the lower transept, was built about the time of Edward the Third.

Various Chapels were erected, and chantries founded at different periods, for the interment of the great, and the performance of mass, to propitiate the Deity in favour of their departed spirits, and those of their friends and relations. A *chantry* was founded within the close of the cathedral, by *Joan de Cantelupe*, in the thirty-first of Edward the Third, for a warden and seven chaplains, to pray for the soul of Nicholas de Cantelupe, her husband; as also for her own soul, after death, and for the souls of all the faithful departed. *John Welbourn*, treasurer of this church, fortieth of Edward the Third, founded a *chantry* here. In an ancient MS. of the dean and chapter, containing copies of deeds and charters respecting this chantry, &c. is a curious instrument, which conveys the house that belonged to "Elye" (Elias) the son of a Jew, who was hanged at Lincoln, and the lands of another Jew, who was outlawed.

Richard Fleming, Bishop of Lincoln, built a chapel near the north door, where a statue lies on an altar tomb of marble in his pontifical robes. Bishop Russel, in the time of Henry the Seventh, also built one for the place of his interment, on the south side of the presbytery. And in imitation of this, during the succeeding reign, Bishop Longland erected another for the like purpose.

pose. This is a beautiful and interesting specimen of the architecture of the age.

The late Earl of Burlington, whose taste for architecture gave him the title of the English Palladio, in a question of precedency between the cathedrals of York and Lincoln, gave a decision in favour of the latter; and preferred the *west front* of it to any thing of the kind in Europe, observing, "That whoever had the conducting of it, was well acquainted with the noblest buildings of old Rome; and had united some of their greatest beauties in that very work." That nothing might be wanting to render this church as splendid in furniture as it was elegant in its decorations, it received the most lavish donations. Indeed so sumptuously was it supplied with rich shrines, jewels, vestments, &c. that Dugdale informs us Henry the Eighth took out of its immense treasure no less than 2621 ounces of gold, and 4285 ounces of silver, besides pearls and precious stones of the most costly kind. Also, two shrines, one called St. Hugh's, of pure gold; and the other of massy silver, called St. John's, of d'Alderby: at the same time the episcopal mitre is said to have been the richest in the kingdom.

From the time the custom of burying in churches was adopted till the present, this cathedral has had its share of costly sepulchres; its chapels, walls, and columns have been ornamented or disfigured by monumental records and emblems of mortality. But when the observer views the state of such pious memorials, and compares them with the number and grandeur of those, which history relates to have been here erected in the different periods, he is strongly reminded of the transitory nature of the very exertions made to counteract the oblivious ravages of time; and of the ineffectual mode of securing to ourselves or others the meed of posthumous fame, by the pomp of monument or lettered stone. Of many of these tombs not a vestige remains, nor are the places known where once they stood.

At the reformation, for the purpose of finding secreted wealth, and under the pretence of discouraging superstition, many of them were destroyed. Bishop Holbech and Dean Henneage, both vio-



lent zealots, caused to be pulled down or defaced most of the handsome tombs, the figures of saints, crucifixes, &c. so that by the close of the year 1548, there was scarcely a perfect tomb or unmutilated statue left. What the flaming zeal of reformation had spared was attacked by the rage of the fanatics in the time of Charles the First. During the presidency of Bishop Winniffe, A. D. 1645, the brass plates in the walls, or flat stones, were torn out, the handsome brass gates of the choir, and those of several chantries pulled down, and every remaining beauty, which was deemed to savour of superstition, entirely defaced; and the church made barracks for the parliamentary soldiers.

In 1782, the floor of the cathedral was new paved, which occasioned a great change in the state of inscribed stones, and the alterations lately made in the transepts and choir, have totally disarranged many of the principal tombs. In the choir were four monuments, one of which is said to have belonged to REMIGIUS, the first bishop. Mr. Gough\* observes, "both Remigius, who began to build this church, and his successor Bloet, who finished it, are said by Willis to have been buried in the church of Remigius's building; the first in the choir, the other in the north transept, and both to have had contiguous monuments, or as he calls them, chapels on the north side of the choir." It seems probable that the present monuments ascribed to both were erected over their remains within the old choir, when it was rebuilt by Bishop Alexander in the reigns of Henry the First and Stephen. This choir was continued further east about the close of Henry the Third's reign, and the screen, rood-loft, and stalls, made in that of Edward the Second. To one of these periods may those monuments therefore be ascribed. The knights on the front of this monument may denote soldiers placed to guard our Lord's sepulchre; as on a tomb in the north side of the altar at Northwold in Norfolk, where are three armed men between three trees, all in a reclining posture. Another monument commemorates *Catharine Swinford*, wife of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster.

Her

\* Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. Part II. p. 11, 18.

Her figure is engraved on a brass plate, and the following inscription is preserved on the fillet:

“ Ici gist Dame Katharine, duchesse de Lancastré jadis femme de la tres noble & tres gracious prince John duc de Lancaster; fils au tres noble roy Edward le tierce. La quelle Katherine moreult le x jour de May l'an de grace mil. cccc. tierz. De quelle almes Dieu eyt mercy & pitee.” Amen,

At the foot of the above is another monument, to the memory of *Joan Countess of Westmoreland*. She was only daughter of John of Gaunt, by the above wife, and was also interred here in November 1440. Attached to a monument of grey marble, on a fillet of brass, was this inscription:

“ Filia Lancastr. ducis inclita, sponsa Johanna  
Westmorland primi subjacet his comitis.  
Desine, scribe, suas virtutes promere nulla  
Vox valeat merita vix reboare sua.  
Stirpe, decore, fide, tum fama, spe, prece, prole,  
Artibus & vita polluit immo sua.  
Natio tota dolet pro morte. Deus tulit ipsam  
In Bricii festo, M. quater C. quater X.”

In the south aisle were twenty-four monuments; among which were those to Bishops Repingdon, Gravesend, and Grosthead. In our lady's chapel was a marble *altar monument*, or cenotaph, with the figure of a queen, and on the edge, in Old English characters, this inscription:

“ Hic sunt, sepulta viscera, Alianore quondam Regine  
Anglie Uxoris Regis Edwardi fili Regis Henrici cuius  
Anime Proprietar Deus. Amen. † Pater noster,”

On the north side of the same chapel were two curious tombs of freestone, arched and carved. One of those, with the figure



of a man in armour, Mr. Sanderson supposes was intended for *Sir John Tiptoft*, in the time of Edward the Third. Under the small east window is a *chantry* founded by *Nicholas Lord Cantalupe*. In this under a lofty pinnacled canopy, is an altar tomb of speckled marble, ascended by steps, having three large shields on the sides, with the figure of a man, armed as a knight, designed for the said Lord Cantalupe. And another under a like canopy, with a figure in his robes, to the memory of Dean Wymbish. At the east end of this chantry is a flat stone, with the brasses gone, to the memory of Lady Joan Cantalupe. In the centre of the east end is a chantry, which was founded by Edward the First, wherein the bowels of his Queen Eleanor were interred.

"BARTHOLOMEW LORD BURGHersh, brother to the bishop of that name, lies opposite to him in the north wall of what was Borough's, or rather Burgherst's, or St. Catharine's chapel, on a tomb under a canopy; his figure in freestone, in armour; at his feet a lion; under his head a helmet, from which issues a lion on his side, like another with two tails, on a shield held over his head by two angels. On the front of the tomb, over six arches which have formerly held twelve figures, are twelve coats \*."

"On the north side of the lady chapel, or rather on the south side of St. Catharine's or Borough's chapel, north of the other, at the feet of Bishop Burghersh, is an altar tomb, without canopy or figure. The cover is made up of two flat blue slabs, the uppermost and largest seemingly reversed, and the other a fragment of a grey slab once charged with a brass shield and ledge; neither of which seemed to have belonged to this tomb originally. On the north side are five arches with ten figures of men and women all buttoned with roses, (one man holding a scroll), and all standing in pairs, and in the spandrils of each arch over them these coats beginning from the east." Mr. G. particularly describes the arms; gives the various conjectures which have been formed of the person for whom this monument was intended, and concludes

\* Gough, Sep. Mon. Vol. I. Part II. p. 108.

cludes—"Notwithstanding the various opinions about this tomb, it is most probable it was erected for John Lord Welles, who died thirty-fifth of Edward the Third, 1361, seized of vast possessions in the county of Lincoln\*."

In the aisle, on the south side of the choir, is the pedestal of a monument, which Stukeley supposed to have been formerly the shrine of St. Hugh, the Burgundian, and in his *Itinerarium Curiosum* he has given an engraving of a raised altar tomb, with an elegant pinnacled shrine, of a pyramidal shape, under this name. But Mr. Lethieulier, in the first volume of the *Archæologia*, observes, that no instance occurs of a saint having two shrines dedicated to him in the same church.

The imputation of the Jews having from time to time crucified children has been, by Rapin and some other historians, considered as an unfounded calumny. It is mentioned, however, by Mathew Paris, an historian of veracity, who was unlikely to be deceived as to an event which happened during his life time. The fact is established, Mr. Lethieulier thinks, beyond all contradiction, by a commission from the king to Simon Passeliere and William de Leighton, to seize for the kings use the houses belonging to the Jews, who were hanged at Lincoln for crucifying a child, &c.

Many defaced monuments, and others which had lost both figures and inscriptions, were taken up during the new paving, and are intended to be placed in the aisles of the choir, or in the cloisters. On the north side of, and connected with the cathedral, is the CLOISTERS, of which only three sides remain in the original state. Attached to the eastern side is the CHAPTER HOUSE, a lofty elegant structure. It forms a decagon, nineteen yards in diameter, the groined roof of which is supported by an umbilical pillar, consisting of a circular shaft, with ten small fluted columns attached to it; having a band in the centre, with foliated capitals. From this the groins issue, resting on small columns on each side. One of the ten sides forms the entrance, which is of the same altitude as the Chapter House. In the

\* Gough, Sep. Mon. Vol. I. Part II. p. 111, 113.



other sides are nine windows, having pointed arches with two lights each. Seven of these have five arcades beneath each; and under the two others are four.

*The Library* over the north side of the cloister was built by Dean Honeywood, whose portrait by Hanneman is still here preserved. In this room is a large collection of books, with some curious specimens of Roman antiquities: One is a red glazed Urn, having at the bottom the maker's name, DONATVS, F. Also several fragments of pottery, among which are many urns and vessels of various construction. A very large one of baked earth, unglazed, is of a roundish shape, with a short narrow neck, to which are affixed two circular handles. It is one foot four inches in diameter, and two feet four inches in height. There is also a very curious glass phial, of a bluish green colour, with a handle near the mouth: it is three inches diameter, by nine inches and a half high. Its contents consist of pieces of bones of too large a size ever to have been put in through the present aperture. This circumstance has excited much surprize; but it would hence appear probable, that in some instances, the Romans, after they had blown the vessel, and deposited the sacred relics, again heated the glass, and gave the upper part of it the requisite shape.

The Officers belonging to this cathedral are the Bishop, Dean, Precentor, Chancellor, Subdean, six Archdeacons, fifty-two Prebendaries, four Priest-Vicars, five Lay-Clerks, or Singing-men, an Organist, seven Poor Clerks, four Choristers, and six Burghurst Chanters. "The dean is elected by the chapter upon the king's letters recommendatory; and upon the election being certified to the bishop, he is instituted into the office of dean, and collated to some vacant prebend, to entitle him to become a residentiary. The precentor, chancellor, and subdean, are under the patronage of the bishop, and by him collated to their several dignities. To the precentorship and chancellorship, prebends are annexed. And when the subdean is collated, if he is not already a prebendary, the bishop confers on him a vacant prebend; and by the

the statutes of the church, the above dignitaries, being prebendaries, are of course residentiaries\*."

Of the *Monastic Institutions*, which owed their origin to the pious sentiments of the early ages, some account has been given in the enumeration of religious houses. The disposition of the English seems, naturally, or politically, adapted to religion; and, at a very early period, christianity met with a favorable reception; made a rapid progress, and exhibited in its converts more zeal, and retained its fervor longer in this kingdom than in any other: upon which account England merited the appellation it received, "*The Isle of Saints*." Besides monasteries, nunneries, and other buildings erected for pious uses, Lincoln could boast of more than fifty churches; most of these, however, by the obliterating hand of time, exist only upon record, and the dilapidated state of others tend to remind the reflecting traveller, that devotion was more the characteristic of former, than of the present times. Exclusive of the cathedral, eleven churches† only now remain, and

\* Bacon's Liber Regis.

† According to Leland's statement, "There be in the north part of the town, upon the hill, 13 parochie churches yet used; I saw a roll, wherein I counted that there were xxxviii parochie churches in Lincoln." In another part he says, "there goith a commune fame, that there were ons 52 parochie churches yn Lincoln citie, and the suburbs of it." In the lower part of the town, called by him *Wikerford*, he says, "there are xi parochie churches, one there I saw in clene ruine, beside the other xi."—Since that period many have fallen into decay, and some have been rebuilt. But as very erroneous statements have been made, in works professing to furnish authentic accounts of the *present state*, &c. of places, especially in the list of parishes contained in Carlisle's Topographical Dictionary, it will be proper to give the following more accurate list of churches and parishes in Lincoln:—All Saints, in the close, a vicarage; All Saints, Hungate; St. Andrew's, Danegate; St. Andrew's, by the palace; St. Andrew's, Wigford; St. Anne's, Thorngate; St. Augustine's; St. Baron's; St. Bartholomew's, a curacy; St. Clement's, in the bail, a vicarage; St. Clement's, Butterwick; St. Cross's; St. Cuthbert's, near Dewstone; St. Dennis's; St. Edmund's; St. Edward's; St. Faith's;



and over many of these, which are modern buildings, the writer would gladly throw a charitable veil.—The situation, however, in which they are placed, the rank they hold among public buildings, and the sacred use for which they were intended, all furnish a powerful cause of lamentation, that structures, so mean, so ill designed, and so puerile in form and character, should ever have been dedicated to the service of the Deity. With regret it must be said, that few of them, either from external grandeur or internal decoration, merit a particular description.

*St. Bennet's church*, a little to the south of High-bridge, consists of a small nave and a north aisle, with a square tower at the west end. The tower is about twenty-five feet high, with four windows, in the early Norman, or Saxon style; having more modern battlements. It appears that the nave formerly extended further towards the west. The south windows are placed high, having under them a projecting torus moulding; and under the nave is a row of curious diminutive heads. The aisle has a handsome east window, in the style of King Henry the Seventh's time; and the windows of the nave appear to have been enlarged in the fourteenth century. On the floor are many ancient monumental flat marbles, but their brasses are gone. Against the west wall is a square brass plate, to the memory of Alderman

Becke

Faith's; *St. George's*, Thorngate; *St. Giles's*, in the East; *St. Gregory's*; *St. Innocent's*; *St. John's*, Corn-market; *St. John's the Poor*, a vicarage; *St. Lawrence's*, in Bulbury; *St. Leonard's*, Eastgate; *St. Mary, Crakepool*, a vicarage; *St. Michael's*, on the Mount, a discharged curacy, church rebuilt; *St. Peter's*, by the Pump; *St. Peter's*, Fishmarket; *St. Peter's*, Stonebeck; *St. Peter's*, Hungate; *St. Rumbold's*; *St. Stephen's*; *St. Trinity*, Greestone Stairs; *St. Trinity*, Clasketgate; *St. Nicholas*, in Newport, Church gone; *St. Swithin's*, a discharged curacy, church rebuilt; *Holy Cross* church, near the Grammar-school, in ruins; *St. Benedict's*; *St. Mark's*, rebuilt; *St. Margaret's*, curacy, united to *St. Peter's Eastgate*, church down; *St. Mary's*, in Wigford; *St. Mary Magdalen*; *St. Michael's*, Curacy church down; *St. Paul's*, rebuilt; *St. Peter's*, at Gowts, a curacy; *St. Peter's*, Eastgate, rebuilt; *St. Peter's*, at Arches, has been rebuilt for the corporation.

Becke and family, on which are engraved the effigies of him and his wife, and children; the date 1620.

The *Church of St. Mary de Wigford* has a nave, chancel, and a north aisle; a south porch, and a lofty square tower, at the west end of the nave. The tower is of the Norman style. It has no buttress, but is square and plain up to the belfry story; where a torus moulding forms a base for the uppermost story, which is narrower than the other parts of the edifice. The belfry has four windows, each consisting of two lights, divided by a column; the ornamented battlements, with figures at the angles, appear of more modern date. The south side of the nave is coeval with the tower; the aisle seems to have been added, and the windows enlarged, about the reign of King John; but the upper part of the aisle is of Henry the Seventh's time. Against a door-way, now blocked up, in the north wall, is a statue of an upright female figure, much defaced. The west door-way is of singular construction: the frames are plain and square, with a circular arch, having imposts, not projecting in front, but ornamented with small squares, alternately raised and depressed; the latter of which have a small knob; in the centre of each is a transom stone resting on the imposts, and the arch is blocked up. Round the arch is a double billeted moulding, on the right of which is a Roman monumental inscription, almost obliterated with dirt. From the appearance of the arch, &c. it may be conjectured that this part of the building is very ancient.

*St. Peter's, at Gowts*, situated on the south side of an old building, opposite what is called John of Gaunt's house, is a very ancient structure. That was probably some religious house, and this the chapel annexed. The church has a lofty tower in the Norman style, similar to that of St. Mary's; but in a more perfect state. On the front is a figure carved in relief, which, from the key placed in its hand, was doubtless meant for St. Peter. The nave and chancel are very lofty, and appear to have been coeval with the tower. On the north side of the nave is a short thick column, with two circular arches, through which formerly the communication



communication was made to the north aisle, now taken down. On each side of the chancel are narrow lancet windows, like loop-holes; and on the north side is a door-way, having a flat arch built up. The south aisle, which is in the style of the fourteenth century, has a porch, and is separated from the nave by two lofty elegant pointed arches. On the south side of the chancel is a chapel, with some remains of painted glass in its east window. Under one of the arches, which separates the nave from the south aisle, is a small stone *font*, of high antiquity; round the outside is a row of small circular arches.

*St. Martin's Church* is still prebendal; it consists of a nave and chancel, with a modern tower, built in the last century, by Alderman Lebeey. In a chapel to the north of the chancel is a large monument of alabaster, with two whole length recumbent figures, to the memory of *Sir Thomas Grantham* and his lady; date 1618. The canopy falling down some years ago, greatly damaged the figures.

Other places of worship for the different denominations of dissenters, are, one for Roman Catholics, one for Independant Baptists, one for Calvinists, and another for Methodists.

The number of parishes within the city are twelve, which, with the four townships within its jurisdiction, make sixteen. These, according to the late government survey, consist of 1574 houses, which accommodated a population of 7398 persons. Though many of the houses are old, there are some very good buildings, both upon and below the hill. The city has of late been considerably improved, by the making of a new road, paving some of the footways, erecting a new market place, also shambles for meat, and lighting it.

Lincoln has a large trade in corn and wool, quantities of which are exported into Yorkshire, by vessels which obtain a back freightage of coals, and other necessary articles for the use of the interior. This city is a county of itself, having subject to it four townships in the neighbourhood, Bracebridge, Canwick, Branston, and

and Waddington, called the "Liberty of Lincoln." This privilege was conferred in the third year of the reign of George the First; and in official acts it is denominated, "*The City and County of the City of Lincoln.*" Its viscountial jurisdiction extends twenty miles round: a privilege unequalled by that of any city in the kingdom. It sent members to parliament as early as the time of Edward the First. In the twenty-sixth year of that monarch, A. D. 1298, Willielmus Disney and Johannes Marmion, were summoned to parliament as its first representatives. In the History of the Boroughs of Great Britain, it is said; "This city had summons with London and York, to send members to parliament, the forty-ninth of Henry the Third. The right of election is considered to be in the freemen, and the number of voters is about eleven hundred. The political influence, though it is by no means absolute, is possessed by Lord Delaval, who has a seat at Doddington, in the neighbourhood."

Lincoln is governed by a corporation, consisting of a mayor, twelve aldermen, two sheriffs, twenty-eight common councilmen, and four chamberlains; who have a recorder, deputy-recorder, steward of the courts of borough-mote, a town-clerk, and four coroners. Also a sword-bearer, mace-bearer, cryer, four sergeants at the key, or bailiffs, constables, and other inferior officers. The mayor is elected on the fourteenth of September, from among the aldermen; the senior, if he has not served the office before, is the person elected. If all have served the office, then he who is the highest in order of standing, is elected to serve a second year.—At the same time two citizens, who have served the office of chamberlain, are elected sheriffs: the one nominated by the new mayor, and the other elected by a majority of votes among the mayor, aldermen, and common council: the mayor having a casting vote.—The chamberlains are chosen from among the freemen, by the mayor, upon the Monday after the feast of St. Michael. If any refuse to serve the offices to which they are thus elected, the mayor and corporation are invested with a power to compel them, by fine and imprisonment.

The



The cordwainers and weavers are the only privileged companies still subsisting here: indeed, they appear to have been the only companies incorporated by royal charter. The former as early as the second year of King Richard the Second, A. D. 1389.

Like all other corporate places, the genius of trade is shackled in Lincoln; and that vigour which it derives from a spirit of rivalry is suppressed, by what is considered, in such cases, a justifiable partiality: though in no instance does it contribute to the wealth or comfort, and certainly not to the credit, of a town. All persons who have not obtained their freedom, if they carry on any kind of trade, are obliged to pay an annual acknowledgment to the sheriffs for the time being, for the allowance of such privilege.

It was incorporated as early as the reign of Edward the Second. Henry Best was the first mayor, in the seventh year of that reign. This city has had the honour of conferring the title of Earl upon several noble families.

Leland observes, in his description of Lincoln, "There be 4 commune places, named as ferys, upon the water of *Lindis*, betwixt *Lincoln* and *Boston*; the which feris leade to divers places. To Short Fery, 5 miles. To Tatershaul Fery, viij miles. To 1 Dogdich Fery [1 mile]. To Langreth Fery [five miles]. To Boston [5 miles].

"Gates in the waulles of the citie of Lincoln. *Barregate*, at the south ende of the toune. *Bailegate*, by south a little a this side the minstre. *Newportgate*, flat north. *Estgate* and *Westgate*, toward the castel. Sum hold opinion, that est of Lincoln were 2 suburbes of it, one toward S. Beges, a late a celle to S. *Mari* Abbay at *York*; the which place I take be *Icanno*, wher was an house of monkes yn S. Botolphe's tyme, and of this spekith Bede. It is scant half a mile from the minster.

"It is easy to be perceived, that the Toune of *Lincoln* bath be notably buildid at 3 tymes. The first building was yn the very toppe of the hylle, the oldest part wherof inhabited in the *Briton's* tyme, was the northethest part of the hille, directly withoute

willscate *Newporte Gate*, the diches whereof yet remaine, and great tokens of the old towne waulles, buildid with stone taken oute of y diche by it; for at the top of *Lincoln hille* is quarre ground. This is now a suburbe to *Newporte Gate*, in the which now is no notable thing, but the ruines of the house of the *Augustine freres* on the south side, and a paroch chirch of the est side; and not far from the chirch garth apperith a great ruine of a towr in the old towne waulle. Sum say that this old *Lincoln* was destroyed by King *Stephen*, but I thinke rather by the *Danes*. Much *Romaine* money is found yn the north (feildes) beyond this old *Lincoln*. After the destruction of this old *Lincoln*, men began to fortifie the souther parte of the hille, new diching, wauling, and gating it; and so was new *Lincoln* made out of a pece of old *Lincoln* by the *Saxons*.

“ The third building of later tymes was in *Wikirford*, for commodite of water; and this parte is enwallid wher it is not defendid with the ryver and marish ground. The river of *Lindis* fleateth a litle above *Lincoln towne*, and maketh certain pooles, whereof one is called *Swanne* poole.”

Of the CASTLE, built by the Conqueror, little now remains; and the area is occupied by buildings appropriated to uses of the municipal power. The few remaining vestiges convey the same idea of original Norman architecture as that of York, erected nearly at the same period. The Keep was not included, but stood half without and half within the castle wall, which ascended up the slopes of the hill, and joined the great tower. This being situated on a high artificial mount, it was equally inaccessible from within and without the castle area. It was nearly round, covering the summit of the mount; and was thus rendered a distinct stronghold, tenable with or without the castle. This accounts for the circumstance mentioned by Lord Lyttleton, of the Earl of Chester making his escape, while the castle was invested by Stephen. From the Keep to another tower, placed also on an artificial mount, was a covered way, by which a private communication was kept up. The walls are above seven feet thick;

and



and under the place of ascent from the covered way, there is something like the remains of a well, protected by the massy thickness of the walls. The outer walls of the castle inclose a very large area, the entrance to which was by a gateway, between two small round towers, still standing, under a large square tower, which contained magnificent rooms. In one corner of the area is a curious small building, appearing on the outside like a tower, called *Cobs-hall*; which Mr. King thinks originally was used as a chapel; "having a fine vaulted roof, richly ornamented, and supported by pillars, with a *crypt* underneath; and adjoining it a small antichapel." The pillars were so placed against the loop-holes through which the light was admitted, that they proved a defence against missive weapons. On the north western side are the remains of a turret, having the curious arch mentioned by Sir Henry Englefield, which being in the line of the Roman wall, might have belonged to a more ancient building, or been a gateway to the old city. Within the area of the castle are the county gaol and shire-hall, both modern structures, and well adapted to their respective purposes.

Few places in the kingdom exhibit so many ancient remains as Lincoln. Saxon, Norman, and pointed arches; and door-ways with turrets, walls, mullioned windows, and other fragments of old dilapidated buildings, appear in every direction. Its numerous churches, and religious houses, the vestiges of which occasionally meet the eye of the enquiring traveller, are numerous; and though they are highly interesting to the antiquary, as tending to illustrate the progress of the arts, and the history of past ages, yet a description of them all would take up more room than can be allowed consistently with the plan of the present work.

The *Mint-wall*, mentioned by Mr. Gough, is still remaining, and forms part of the inclosure of a garden, belonging to the present Rector of St. Paul's. It is annexed to the *duchy of Lancaster*.

*Chequer or Exchequer Gate*, at the west end of the cathedral, had

two

two gate houses; the western one was taken down about ten years ago. That to the east still remains, and has three gateways, vaulted with brick, and two turrets between them. In Eastgate Street are two very ancient gateways, one of which is nearly entire.

At the bottom of the town, near to Brayford water, are yet the remains of a fort, called *Lucy Tower*, whence, by a subterraneous passage, a communication is traditionally said to have been formed with the castle. Near the remains of a chapel, called *St. Giles's*, on the top of the hill, in an adjoining close, is an entrance to a subterraneous passage, vulgarly called *St. Giles's Hole*; how far it extends has not been ascertained. In and about the city are several of these passages through the rocks.

At the north east corner of the minster yard is a large gateway, with a groove for a portcullis; and near it a smaller one, leading to a house called the *Priory*. The greater portion of this house is modern; but on the north side is an ancient tower of three stories, much defaced, which, from its situation on the town wall, appears rather to have been a *military* than a *religious* building. The most singular feature is in the south wall; it resembles a niched tomb, about three feet six inches in length, and over it is a recess, having an ornamented architrave, the jambs of which are curiously carved; at the back is the appearance of an aperture, now blocked up, if it was ever pierced through, like the mouth of an oven.

Following the close-wall eastward are two castellets, or watch towers, each of which had two floors, the lower ones vaulted, and surmounted with flat roofs; they have battlements, and the walls are pierced with loop holes. These stand at the corners of the chancellor's garden. From the eastern of these towers the wall returns to *Pottergate*, the south front of which is much defaced, but the north front is tolerably perfect, embattled, and handsome. This gate is supposed to have taken the name from a Roman *pottery* once here. The Priory Gate, the two towers of the Chancellor's garden, and Pottergate, are of similar architecture, and of a



synchronical date, apparently about the end of the fourteenth, or beginning of the fifteenth century.

A house of a Mr. Nelson, on the south side of the vicar's court, has a castellated appearance, and is very ancient. It seems to be in the style of Edward the First's time. In the windows are the arms of the see, handsomely emblazoned in painted glass.

The *Grey Friars*, situated on the west side of Broadgate, is a large oblong building, the lower story of which lies some feet under the surface of the ground. It is vaulted throughout, with a plain groined roof, supported by octagonal columns, having plain bases, and neat capitals. On the south side is a row of pointed windows, with buttresses between them. The old staircase, with its large awkward steps, is curious. The upper story has a mullioned window at the east end, and a cieling of wood, in the herring bone fashion. Part of this, which was the chapel, is used as a free school, and the other as a library. It was given to the city, and fitted up for this purpose, by Robert Monson, Esq. A. D. 1567. Under it is a school for spinning; and in front is the sheep market.

The DEANRY was founded by Dean, afterwards Bishop, Gravesend in 1254. The gate-house of it was built by Dean Fleming, whose arms are on it. The front, next the minster, has the initials of Roger Parker over the bow window, and the date 1616. To this adjoins an ancient building, called the *Werks Chantry*, till 1321 the chancellor's house, when the present residence was assigned to chancellor Beke. It was afterwards the habitation of four chantry priests, who were to celebrate daily mass for the souls of the founders and benefactors.

The VICAR'S COLLEGE, now called the *Old Vicars*, formed a quadrangle, of which at present there remains only four good houses, inhabited by the vicars. The gateway is ornamented with the old arms of France and England, quarterly between a cross botonè, and a fess between six cross crosslets. This college,

lege, Gough says, "was begun by Bishop Sutton, whose executors finished the hall, kitchen, and several chambers. But the style of building would induce me to refer it to a later period. Edward the Third was the first of our kings who quartered the arms of France with those of England. Bishop Sutton, therefore, probably was not the founder, as he died in 1299. The long building below the quadrangle, now divided into stables and hay-lofts, seems to have been built by Bishop Alnwick, and John Breton, prebendary of Sutton cum Bucks; the Bishop's arms, A, a cross moline, S, and the rebus *Bre* on a *tun*, being on the east end."

THE BISHOP'S PALACE, on the south side of the hill, which, from being situated on the summit, Leland described as "*hanging in declivio*," was built by Bishop Chesney, to whom the site was granted by King Henry the Second, and enlarged by succeeding prelates. This, when entire, was a noble structure, and scarcely exceeded in grandeur by any of our ancient castles. It was completely repaired by Bishop Williams, prior to the civil war, during which unhappy contest it was demolished. The gateway, the work of Bishop Alnwick, whose arms are on the spandrils and wooden door, was left entire. The shell of the magnificent hall, begun by Hugh of Burgundy, and finished by Hugh the Second, who also built its famous kitchen, is eighty-four feet by fifty, supported by two rows of pillars, with three arches opening into the screen at the south end, and communicating, by a bridge of one lofty pointed arch, with the kitchen, and other principal apartments. It had four double windows on each side. Part of the kitchen wall, with seven chimnies in it, is yet standing, and the front exhibits three stout buttresses. Dr. Nelthorpe, obtaining a lease of the site, built of the old materials a handsome stone house, in which the Bishop is at present accommodated when he visits the city.

At the upper end of Broadgate is an old building with two handsome mullioned windows, and an arched door-way, apparently a conventual-hall, or refectory. Over the door-way



is a curious bust, having a little figure, (of which only the lower part remains,) sitting on its shoulder. Some have conjectured that this was an allegorical figure, representing St. Christopher carrying Christ; but as a close near it is called *St. Hugh's Croft*, in which a fair was formerly held, it might allude to the circumstance of the Jews crucifying a child, who was canonized under the name of St. Hugh.

Adjoining to St. Andrew's church-yard formerly stood the palace of the celebrated *John of Gaunt*, whose arms, curiously carved in a block of free-stone, stood in the front of it, till the year 1737. This was "the goodly house" which Leland says belonged to the Suttons. Much of it was taken down in the year 1783. Some foundations were dug up last year, by the gentleman inhabiting the adjoining house, who has several heads and grotesque figures of stone fragments of the palace. In the gable end of it is still remaining a curious oriel window blocked up, and a chimney built within it. It is of a semiocagonal shape, having two trefoiled lights in front, with two smaller ones on the side, covered with rich carved work of foliage, busts, &c. and was mounted with finials and pinnacles, which are broken off. Opposite to this house is a large building, called *John of Gaunt's stables*; which was most likely part of his palace. It was a large structure, in the Norman style, and formerly consisted of a quadrangle, enclosing a spacious area; the north and west fronts of which still remain. The entrance is under a semicircular arch; and against the front are several flat buttresses, with a small carved cornice. What appears singular in this building is, that the windows do not exhibit that mixed character discernible in many ancient structures, but are all either in the original, or in quite a modern style.

The *Jew's House*, as it is still termed, on the side of the hill, opposite a spot called the Bull-ring, is an object of great curiosity. It is singularly ornamented in front, and some of its mouldings are like those of the west doors in the cathedral. In the centre of the front is a semicircular arched door-way, with a projecting pilaster above it. In this are now two chimnies, one of which appears

appears to have formed part of the original plan. The arches are circular withinside, and plain; and in one of the chambers is a large arched fire place, also a niche, with a triangular bend. This house was possessed by *Belaset de Wallingford*, a Jewess, who was hanged for clipping in the eighteenth of Edward the First, and the year following it was granted, by that monarch, to *William de Foleteby*, whose brother gave it to Canon Thornton, and he presented it to the dean and chapter, who are the present proprietors.

The *Stonebow* is a large tower gateway, crossing the high street. This edifice is said to have been built about the thirteenth of Richard the Second; but from the style, probably much later. The south front is decorated with the statues of the Angel Gabriel holding a scroll, and the Virgin Mary with the serpent at her feet. An old building at the east end, formerly called the *Kitchen*, is now used as the *city gaol*.

The *High Bridge*, over the main stream of the river Witham, consisting of one arch, eleven feet high and twenty-one feet nine inches in diameter, is at least considered 500 years old. From the main arch spring two others at right angles eastward, one on each side the river, which is vaulted over, and upon this vault stood the ancient chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, in which was a chantry, founded by the corporation in the time of Edward the First.

The *Market House* was built during the second mayoralty of Mr. John Lebsey, in the year 1736, by an act of common council for appropriating, during ten years, the sum of 100*l.* which had before annually been spent on the city feast.

Here were formerly two *grammar schools*, one in the Close, maintained by the dean and chapter; the other in the city, supported by the corporation. In the year 1583, both were united; the master is elected, and paid half his stipend, by the dean and chapter; the usher is elected and paid by the corporation, who are bound to pay the other half of the master's stipend, and repair the school-house.

The *Blue Coat School*, or Christ's Hospital, joins the west gate



of the episcopal palace, and is a neat modern building. This charity is intended to maintain and educate thirty-seven boys; who wear a dress similar to those of Christ Church, London.

The *County Hospital*, for the sick and infirm, was erected in the year 1769, and is supported by voluntary subscription. It appears to be conducted in a manner agreeably to the beneficent intention of its founders.

About eleven years ago a general *House of Industry* was erected, upon the plan first adopted at Shrewsbury, for the paupers of the city and liberties of Lincoln, with eighteen other contracting parishes; which, by paying a certain quota, assigned by the directors, are allowed the same privileges as the incorporated parishes within the city.

An *Asylum*, for that most unfortunate class of the children of misery, the *Insane*, is in contemplation, and very considerable sums have been subscribed and vested in the hands of trustees for the benevolent purpose of founding it.

The *County Goal* is a strong building, constructed on the Howardian plan, of separate and solitary confinement, after a design by Mr. Hayward, surveyor. It is situated in the Castle-yard, and the premises are held by lease under the Duchy Court of Lancaster. The front, containing the gaoler's and debtors' apartments, is one hundred and thirty feet in length, with about two acres of grass plat in front; in which the debtors, during the day, have the privilege of walking. Different accommodations are provided for master-side debtors, and common-side debtors; and in the common prison there are distinct apartments, both by day and night, for different descriptions of prisoners; viz. for male prisoners awaiting trial, for female ditto; for male convicts under sentence of transportation, for female ditto. In all cases the sexes are kept separate, both by day and night.

The gaoler, who is both a humane and upright man, is allowed a handsome salary. Divine service is regularly performed, and the benefit of medical advice and assistance is allowed to all prisoners. Whether the accommodations and conveniences of the building, its internal regulations, or the mode in which they are enforced,

enforced, be considered, the view is calculated to afford pleasure to the benevolent mind.

The *City Gaol at Stone Bowgate*, has long furnished a melancholy contrast. Situated in a dank dark spot, confined in its dimensions, and so constructed as almost wholly to exclude both light and air, it is highly injurious to health; and facing a great thoroughfare passage, by which means the rabble from without can hold communication with the abandoned within, it is rendered extremely prejudicial to morals, and a common nuisance to the city. It is an act of justice, however, to the late and present magistrates, to observe, that a new prison is erecting, upon the plan of that for the county, which, when finished, will do away what has long been matter of just complaint and general reprehension; and it is devoutly to be wished that the like activity, as to internal regulation, and the same spirit of humanity, will prevail, which so eminently distinguish the regulations of the county prison, and thereby redound to the honour of its magistracy.

Over the butter-market an *Assembly Room* was built in 1757, for the subscription balls of the citizens. A larger one, north of the cathedral, is appropriated to the inhabitants of the Close.

A *Theatre* has been recently opened, in the King's Arms Yard, for the accommodation of the Children of Thespis, and to add to the amusements of the place. It is a neat but small brick building, and consists of a pit, two rows of boxes, and one gallery. Plays are performed here during the race time, and for about two months in the autumn.

Among the distinguished natives of Lincoln, may be named that eminent physician and clerk, the late Dr. WILLIS. He was educated at Brazen-nose College, Oxford, where he took a master's degree, in the year 1740. After entering into holy orders, he was preferred to the rectory of St. John's, Wapping. Having a partiality to the medical profession, he determined to practice: for which purpose, in the year 1759, he accumulated the degrees of bachelor and doctor of physic at his own university. In this profession he soon became eminent; and paying particular atten-



tion to a malady, whose causes and cure were little understood, he became celebrated for the treatment of *insanity*. He went to reside in his native county, and opened a large house for this purpose at *Greatford*, where he was so successful, that on the late convalescence of our sovereign, his advice was sought for on that melancholy occasion. Having fortunately restored the king's health, the fame of his professional service to this country induced the court of Portugal to solicit his assistance for the queen, then labouring under a similar affliction; but though, after some months trial, he was unsuccessful, his reputation remained undiminished. It was a confirmed case, which completely baffled all medical skill, and resisted the force of medicine. At the time of his death, a number of afflicted persons of family and respectability were under his care at Greatford and Shillingthorpe, where the Doctor had establishments for such patients. He lived highly esteemed, and died greatly lamented, at an advanced age, December 5, 1807; and his remains were interred in Greatford church.

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Having thus detailed a few particulars respecting the city, I shall proceed to give an account of the places most worthy of note in the division of *Lindsey*; first specifying the hundreds and parishes, and next recording some topographical notices of the towns, antiquities, seats, &c.

LAWRESS WAPENTAKE contains the following parishes:—*Aisthorpe, Barlings, Brattleby, Broxholme, Burton, Buslingthorpe, Carlton North, Carlton South, Dunholme, Faldingworth, Fiskarton, Frithorpe, Grutwell, Nettleham; Reepham, Riseholme*, extraparochial hamlet, *Saxilby with Ingilby, Scampton, Scothorn, Snarford, Sudbrooke, Thorpe West, Torksey, Wilton, Willingham, and Cherry.*

At BARLINGS, to the east of Lincoln, was a Premonstratensian abbey, now in ruins, of regular canons, founded by Ralph de

de Haye, in the time of Henry the Second, A. D. 1154. It was first situated, Tanner says, at Barling-Grange; but Ralph de Haye having bestowed on the religious a more eligible spot, called Oxeney, the abbey was removed thither; "Hence it was sometimes called the Abbey of *Oxeney*, or *de Oxeniaco*, but generally *Barlings*." It was much enriched by the liberal donations of Alice Lucey, Countess of Lincoln, and subsequently by further grants from several illustrious families. In the twenty-sixth year of Henry the Eighth, the revenues were rated, according to Tanner, at 242l. 5s. 11d. The famous *Dr. Makerel*, who headed the Lincolnshire rebels, under the assumed name of Captain Cobler, was abbot of this monastery. The cause of that insurrection was the suppression of some religious houses, or as it is stated by others, the imposing an unpopular tax. Makerel was taken, and hanged at Tyburn, for denying the king's supremacy, March 29th, 1537. The hexagonal tower at Barlings, engraved by Buck, is nearly down; nothing of the building remaining but part of a wall, and some pieces of mutilated columns. These were clustered; and the fragments shew, that they were richly ornamented with capitals, terminating in light and elegant foliage. Not far distant is

SUDBROOKE HOLME, the seat of Richard Ellison, Esq. M. P. for the city of Lincoln, and lieutenant-colonel of the royal North Lincoln militia. The mansion, a handsome brick edifice, was built by the late Richard Ellison, Esq. The parish is a rectory, in the patronage of the Bishop of Lincoln. The old church being dilapidated, a new one was erected by the liberality of the proprietor of Sudbrooke Holme. In the church-yard is a fragment of an old cross.

SOUTH CARLTON is a small village, famous for being formerly the seat of the Monsons. Sir William Monson, who was knighted at the siege of Cadiz by the Earl of Essex, was a naval captain in several expeditions against the Spaniards, in the time of Queen Elizabeth. He took a carrack of *sixteen hundred tons*, at Cazimbria, near Portugal; and, for that gallant action, was made an admiral.



admiral. He wrote an account of the Spanish wars from 1585 to 1602; stood high in fame at the commencement of James the First's reign, and died shortly after. Sir John Monson, Knight of the Bath, and a Baronet, was also of the same family; studied at the Inns of Court, and became an eminent lawyer. During the troubles between King Charles and his parliament, he attended that monarch, and assisted in all his councils and treaties. After suffering much for his loyalty, his estates being sequestered, he purchased the privilege of retirement at the expence of 2642*l*. Here he wrote "An Essay upon Afflictions," "An Antidote against the Errors of Opinions," and "Supreme Power and Common Right." The grandfather of the present Lord Monson was created a baron, by the title of Baron Monson, of *Burton*, in Lincolnshire, by King George the Second. The present family mansion is at BURTON, a village about two miles south of North Carlton. The house is seated in a finely wooded park.

At SCAMPTON, a village about six miles north of Lincoln, was discovered, in the year 1795, the foundations, &c. of a *Roman villa*. It was situated on the brow of the hill, at a short distance north of the Roman road, which communicated between Lindum Colonia, and Agelocum, on the Trent. The character and dimensions of it have been carefully investigated by the Rev. C. Illingworth, the worthy rector of this parish, who has described it with plates, &c. in a topographical history of the place. From the plan, including an area of 200 feet square, the number of apartments, which were upwards of forty, and the dimensions of some, with their decorations of painted, stuccoed walls, and tessellated pavements, it appears to have been a villa of considerable elegance and distinction. Out of thirteen pavements, only one was perfect, which was engraved by Mr. Fowler, of Winterton. Some of the walls were of great thickness; and various Roman antiquities were found scattered over the foundations. In two of the rooms were discovered skeletons, which, from some of them lying upon the foundation walls, others being inclosed in a sort of stone coffins, rudely formed of one hollow stone covered by

by another, and all placed in a position due east and west, Mr. I. concluded, "that some Saxon, or other Christian chapel might have been erected on the site of the villa \*;" which conclusion he considered was supported from the circumstance of its being upon record, that a chapel, dedicated to St. Pancras, did exist as early as the commencement of the twelfth century on that spot, near to a chalybeate spring, still called *St. Pancras' Well*.

In domesday book the manor which was granted to the Gaunt family, is stated to contain ten carucates of land. And it is a singular circumstance, that the lands in Lincolnshire, as set forth in that celebrated survey, were measured and taxed, not according to *hides*, but *carucates*; and whenever these are mentioned, without reference to hides, a carucate was equal in quantity to the hide, which was about six score acres, though the quantity varied in different counties. "In provincia Lincolnie non sunt hide, sicut in aliis provinciis, sed pro *hidis* sunt *carucata* terrarum et non minus valent quam *hide*†." An ancient custom prevailed in this manor, as it did in many parts of the north, called *Inham*, but more properly *Intok*, or *Intak*, which signifies, any corner or part of a field fenced out from the fallow, and sown with beans, peas, oats, or tares.

In the church are several monuments of the *Bolles* family, anciently lords of the manor. At a short distance from the church formerly stood the family residence, *Scampton-Hall*, erected on the site of the West Grange, belonging to Kirksted Abbey. But upon the death of the last Sir John Bolles, Bart. in 1714, his sister and heiress, Mrs. Sarah Bolles, residing at Shrewsbury,

\* At the early dawn of Christianity in this kingdom, it was usual to erect buildings for Christian worship on the site of others which had been dedicated to Pagan superstition. The first cathedral of St. Paul's was built on the site of a temple dedicated to Diana. The parish church of Richborough stands on the site of a sacellum belonging to the Prætorium. And the same is observable at Porchester, Verulam, and other Roman stations.

† Walter de Witteley, Monk of Peterboro'. Fol. 37.



Shrewsbury, suffered the family mansion to fall into ruins. It was seated in the centre of a small park; part of the old walls are incorporated with those of a farm house, near which an ornamental gateway is still standing, built about the time of James the First, and probably coeval with the mansion. It is an archway, having over it an entablature, supported on each side by double columns of the Doric Order, with ornamented knobs on the shafts.

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WELL WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Brampton*, *Burtongate*, *Fenton Hamlet*, *Kettlethorpe* and *Loughterton*, *Kerby*, *Knaith*, *Marton*, *Newton*, *Stow*, *Sturton* and *Bransby*, *Upton* and *Willington by Stow*, and *Torksey*.

TORKSEY, situated at the junction of the Fossdyke with the Trent, is a small obscure village, but a place of high antiquity, and formerly of considerable consequence. "*Torksey* was a Roman town, built at the entrance of the Foss into the Trent, to secure the navigation of those parts, and as a storehouse for corn, and was walled about. The present castle is founded on the old Roman granary, which was much like Colchester castle, with circular towers at the corners. A foundation still visible all along the edge of the original site\*." Anterior to the arrival of the Normans, it appears from Domesday Book, that this place had 200 burgesses, who enjoyed many privileges. For which they were bound, as often as the king's ambassadors came that way, to convey them in their own barges down the Trent, and conduct them to the city of York. The bank of the river is a very deep sand, and on this declining shore it was that Paulinus baptized the Lindisians, in presence of Edwin, King of Northumberland, as Bede says; and here, doubtless, was the long-sought *Tiorulfingacæstre* of that author. The Romans conducted

\* Stukeley's Letter to Mr. Gale.

conducted the outlet of the Fossdyke, between two small hills, into an angle of the Trent.

The present remains of the *castle* exhibit a western front, with four irregular turrets, placed at unequal distances, and a fragment of the south end, originally part of the offices, now converted into stables. The apartments seem to have been spacious; but there is no appearance to indicate that any outworks ever existed. It was probably, therefore, intended rather as a magnificent residence, than a place of defence. The building is of brick, but the corners and battlements are of stone, and stands about sixty yards from the bank of the river, which sometimes flows up to the foot of the ruins.

Here was a *priory of Austin Canons*, built by King John. It consisted of only four religious persons about the time of the dissolution, when its annual revenues were valued at 13l. 1s. 4d. In the thirty-fifth of Henry the Eighth, it was granted to Sir Philip Hobby. The priory and convent fined to King John in a *palfrey*, for the confirmation of their grants, and that they might not be obliged to plead, except before the king. Here was also another religious house, called the *Foss Nunnery*, founded by the same monarch, and its privileges confirmed by King Henry the Third. It was of the order of St. Benedict, and valued, at the dissolution, at 7l. In Leland's time, Torksey had two churches; at present there is but one, which is a small, neat building, in the centre of the village. The ancient charter of this place is still preserved, by virtue of which it enjoys the privilege of a toll from strangers, who bring cattle or goods to its fair on Whit-Monday. The manor of Torksey was formerly the property of the Duke of Newcastle, by whom it was sold to the father of the present proprietor, Sir Abraham Hume, Baronet.

KNAITH is a small village, formerly the property and residence of the Barons Darcey, and afterwards of Lord Willoughby, of Parham. This place is rendered famous from having given birth to the munificent founder of the *Charter House*,

THOMAS



THOMAS SUTTON, Esq. who was born here, A. D. 1532. He received his education at Eton college, and studied the law in Lincoln's Inn; but it does not appear that he ever followed the profession. According to the *Magna Britannia*, he entered into the army, and obtained the paymastership of a regiment. Quitting the military service, he became a merchant, and acquired great riches by trade. The author of his life says, that he made several valuable purchases in the county of Durham, where he discovered coal mines. By working these he gained immense property, and by marriage obtained still more. On the death of his wife, which happened in 1602, he led a retired life, and began to think of disposing of his wealth in a way becoming the profession and hopes of a Christian. He purchased the Charter House, London, and formed it into an hospital for the infirm, and a seminary for youth. This noble monument of protestant charity, was begun and completed in his own lifetime, and endowed at his own charge. It is an institution perhaps the most magnificent ever founded in Christendom at the sole expence of an individual. He died at Hackney, in the year 1611.

BURTON GATE, five miles south of Gainsborough, is the seat of *William Hutton, Esq.* by whose father the present mansion was erected. It is a regular plain building of brick; but of a colour so nearly resembling stone, as at a distance not easily to be distinguished from it. The grounds are terminated on the west by the river Trent, to which there is a gentle, though irregular descent from the house, of nearly half a mile. This river, with the objects on its banks, form a beautiful feature.

SIDNACESTER. This place, anciently the seat of the Bishops of Lincoln, before the see was united with Dorchester and removed to that city, has long had a name without "a local habitation." Bede informs us, that Paulinus, after converting the Northumbrians, came into the northern part of the kingdom of Mercia. Successful in preaching the gospel here, he converted  
Blaecca,

Blaecea, the governor of Lincolnia, or Lincoln, and baptized many people of this district in the river Trent, at a place called *Tiovulfingacæstre*. And Mathew, of Westminster, says, that over his new spiritual acquisitions, Paulinus ordained a bishop, who had six successors. On the death of Eadulph, the see having been vacant eighty years, Bishop Gibson observes, that it was united, by Leofwin, to that of Dorchester. But the question is, where was this *Sidnacester*? Mathew, of Westminster, when speaking of two of its bishops, Ealdulfus and Ceolulfus, observes, "Hi-  
antem episcopi ubi sedem haberent cathedralem penitus ignoramus." Wharton, in his "*Anglia Sacra*," asserts, that hitherto its situation has not been known. And Camden states, "This is now so entirely gone, that neither ruins nor name are now in being." Hence most antiquaries have adopted a general mode of description. One says, "It was near Gainsborough;" another, "In Lincolnshire, near the Humber;" and Camden, "In this part of the county;" while some are entirely silent. Others have, however, decided upon the situation of the place. Mr. Johnson thought it was *Hatfield*, in the county of York. Dr. Stukeley, at *Newark-upon-Trent*; which opinion Mr. Dickenson, in his history of that town, has adopted, and endeavoured to establish by additional, but unsatisfactory arguments, as will be hereafter clearly demonstrated. Mr. Pegge proposes to consider *Kirkton*, or Kirton, the place. Horsley, in his *Britannia Romana*, after having fixed the Roman station, *Causennæ*, of Antonine's Itinerary, at *Ancaster*, supposes that to have been *Sidnacester*, and the name derived from Causennacester, the first syllable being dropped, which makes *Sennacester*. Camden was inclined to fix it at *Gainsborough*; and his editor, Gibson, at *Stow*. This latter place seems to have the fairest claim; and I shall endeavour to shew the superiority of that claim to those made in favour of the places previously named, by first appealing to the authority of Bede. "Eadhaed in provincia *Lindisfarorum* quam nuperrime Rex Ergfrid, superato in bello et fugato Ulf-  
here,



here, obtinuerat, ordinatur episcopus\*." Of this province, which he afterwards calls *Lindissi*, he says, Eadhaed was the first bishop. The question now reverts, where was this *Lindissi* situated, and how far did it extend? Its bounds are, by the same writer, described with sufficient accuracy, to discover that it contained the tract of country still retaining the name of *Lindsey*. "*Lindissi* quæ est prima ad meridianum Humbræ fluminis ripam." So also Mathew, of Westminster, "Inter *Lincolniam* et flumen *Humbri*;" and further, "*provinciam Lindisse* regionis quæ est ad meridianam plagam *Humbri* fluminis." Higden also states, "*Provincia Lindisfarum* est idem quod *Lindiscia*, quæ jacet ad orientem *Lincolniæ*, cujus ipsa caput est." Here is given its northern boundary, the Humber; and its southern, or south-western boundary, the city of Lincoln. This will invalidate the claim of *Hatfield* and *Newark*, neither of these places lying within the division of *Lindsey*. The observations of Stukeley, quoted by Mr. Dickenson, That the divisions of counties were not made till the time of Alfred; that then the wapentake of *Newark* was forcibly taken out of *Lincolnshire*; and that the *Trent* was the ancient, because the natural, boundary between that county and *Nottinghamshire*, are assertions which, if granted, would prove nothing in favour of his opinion; because the position on which his argument rests, that *Provincia Lindissi* was taken by our ancestors in so large a sense, that "It meant all *Lincolnshire*, whereof *Lindum* was the capital city," is unfounded, as appears by the definition of its boundary, above quoted from Bede, and other writers. The opinion of Mr. Pegge, given in his dissertation on the subject†, that *Kirton*, about midway between *Lincoln* and the station of *Ad-Abum*, on the Humber, was the place, is equally untenable. The only argument he makes use of is,

"that

\* Hist. Lib. IV. c. 12.

† Printed in an Appendix to the First Volume of Nichols's History and Antiquities of *Leicestershire*.

"that this name, signifying the *Church Town*, would be one probably given by the Saxons at first to Sidnacester." In a subsequent place he destroys this argument by observing, that "The name has a manifest reference to a church, which is usually pronounced *kirk* in the name of places in the northern parts, particularly in Lincolnshire, where this word enters the composition of a number of names." On this ground, other places might have equal pretensions, especially as Kirton has no vestiges of antiquity, though Dr. Stukeley fancied it was the *In Medium* of the Romans, nor any thing very noble in its appearance to induce the mind to give this the preference above the rest; yet, by an unaccountable and extraordinary mode of reasoning, Mr. Pegge thinks, "*The very obscurity of Kirkton, veiled as it were by its modern name,*" is a good argument that this was the place in question!

The reasonings of Bishop Gibson, for placing Sidnacester at Stow, are the strongest of any hitherto adduced; and his conclusion, if not decisive, is extremely plausible. Eadnorth, the Bishop of Sidnacester, who died A. D. 1050, built St. Mary's, or the church of our Lady, in Stow. "Where then can we imagine," says Gibson, "a Bishop of Sidnacester should so probably build a church as at Sidnacester? Or whence should he sooner take his pattern or platform, than from his own cathedral of Dorchester?" The see of *Legecester*, or Leicester, is concluded to have been where St. Margaret's now stands; and as that is a peculiar, a prebend, and an archdeaconry, so is Stow. Besides, the present ecclesiastical privileges of this place are greater than any hereabouts, except Lincoln; and they have formerly even exceeded that. For that it was famous before Lincoln, and was a bishop's see, is beyond dispute; and it is a common notion in those parts, both of learned and unlearned, that Stow was the mother church to Lincoln. The steeple of the church, though large, has been much greater than it is. And Alfred Puttock, or Putta, Archbishop of York, anno 1023, when he gave two great bells to Beverley steeple, which he had built, and two others of the



same mould to Southwell, bestowed two upon Stow\*." It is generally agreed, that whatever places have *chester* in their names, were formerly *Roman* forts or stations. Upon this view, the site of Sidnacester must either have been one, or in the vicinity of one. Close adjoining to the present Stow is *Stretton*, so named from being situated on the Roman road, which branches off from the one leading from *Lincoln* to *Ad Abum*, and proceeds in a westerly direction to the Trent, and thence on to *Danum*, now *Doncaster*.

About three miles west of Stow, on the banks of that river, is the site of the ancient *Segelocum* of the fifth *Iter*, and the *Agelocum* of the eighth. There Horsley fixes this station: for though he says that the present village of *Littleborough* answers to it, yet he observes, "The Roman station has been on the *east* side of the river, though the town stands on the west. Roman coins have been found here, called *Swine pennies*, two Roman altars, and other antiquities†." Here was a Roman *Trajectus*, and it is still a place for passing the river, which, from the opposite village, is called *Littleborough Ferry*. In the summer season it is often fordable. About a quarter of a mile from *Marton* the Roman road is still visible; and several pieces of pavement have been found here. The ancient city might have stood more to the west; and, being built near the station, would of course obtain the addition of *Castra*, and Saxon *Ceaster*.

Stow, though now a small village, is an archdeaconry; and its jurisdiction, comprehending the whole of *Lindsey*, is a strong argument in its claims to ancient note; but a still stronger is adduced by Mr. Gough, who says, "the district round it is called *Sidena*." The see, in the early time of Remigius, was certainly at Sidnacester; and that prelate is said to have built, or rather re-edified, the church of *Stow*, which had been raised by Ead-north.

\* Gibson, in Camden Col. 571.

† *Britannia Romana*, p. 434.

north. This is a large cruciform structure, having a nave, transepts, choir, and an embattled tower rising from the centre. This rests on new pointed arches, built within the ancient semicircular arches. The length from east to west is one hundred and forty-six feet; the width of transept seventy-seven; that of the nave twenty-seven feet six inches; of the chancel twenty-five feet six inches. The western and southern entrances exhibit curious remains of the Saxon style. The western doorway is formed by three retiring columns on each side, with zigzag, or chevron mouldings round the circular arch, which rest on square abaci. Two of the shafts on each side are plain, the others octagonal, with a zigzag ornament. Over this is a large west window, having a sharp pointed arch. On the western side of the north transept is a very old Saxon arch, and another with the ends of the moulding terminating in snake's head ornament. Round the inside of the chancel is a continued arcade, consisting of semicircular arches, with zigzag mouldings resting on plain columns. On the average, they are twenty-three inches wide, and divided by half columns, or pilasters, formed by three small shafts, into divisions of five, four, and five on each side. The sides are nearly uniform in style and ornament, and from many parts being similar to what appears in Malmsbury Abbey Church, in the county of Wilts, it is probable that this part was rebuilt, by Bishop Alexander, subsequent to the time of Remigius\*. The chancel appears to have been once vaulted; and within it are two stones, bearing Saxon characters, but illegible. On the floor is an ancient monument of coffin shape, with a head, or half bust, in relief, within an excavation. Inscribed are these letters:

+ ALLEN - - - - STOE  
N - ERU - - ID - -

U u 2

Engraved

\* These are represented and described in the *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*, Vol. I.



Engraved on a copper plate, against a pillar, is this inscription :

*Aspice respice, prospice.*

In this chancel lyeth buried y<sup>e</sup> bodies of RICHARD BURGH, of Stowe-Hall, Esq. & Anne his wife, descended f<sup>m</sup> the anc<sup>t</sup> & noble familie of the Lord Burgh, Baron of Gainesborough, & next heyr male of that familie, & the s<sup>d</sup> Ane was the eldest daughter of Anthonie Dillington, of Knighton, in y<sup>e</sup> Isle of Wight, Esq. had 4 sons, viz. That noble and valiant soldyer, Sir John Burgh, Collonel Gen<sup>l</sup>all of his Maj<sup>s</sup> forces to the Isle of Rhe, in France, where he was slaine, A. D. 1627.

The above-named Richard died, A. D. 1616. Coat of arms, three fleurs de lis, supporters two lions rampant, crowned with two hawks or falcons, with this motto :

*Nec parvis sisto.*

Against the south wall of the chancel is a mural stone, thus inscribed :

Neare unto this place lyeth buried the bodyes of Mr. Thomas HOLBECH, that sometyme dwelt in Stowe Parke, with Anne his wife, daughter of Anthony Yoxley, of Mellis, Esq. which said Anne deceased the 7th day of Sep<sup>r</sup>. An. Dom. 1581, and the s<sup>d</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup>. dece<sup>d</sup> the 16<sup>th</sup> day of Aprill, 1591. And they left issue one only son, named Edward.

In the church, under the tower, was a large flat stone, inscribed in old letters, M,CCC,II. The pulpit is made of curiously carved oak. The clock is a piece of peculiar and curious mechanism, having a pendulum vibrating at longer intervals than is usual. But the most interesting object, after the church, to the antiquary, is a curious ancient FONT. It stands upon a platform, ascended by two steps. The base, or pedestal, is square ; on which is carved a figure, in relief, of a wivern, or dragon\*, intended as a personification of Satan, and allusive to his fall, by the efficacy of Christian baptism. The shaft is circular,

\* A similar animal appears on the crest of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster : also on the reverse of his great seal. See Sandford's History, &c. p. 102.

circular, and surrounded by eight short pillars, with foliated capitals. The upper part is octagonal; and each face, or side, has an ornamental device.

Near the church are two sides of a quadrangular moat, which, it is supposed, surrounded either a palace of the bishop, or the old manor house. It is evident that the bishops had formerly a palace in this parish, as some records are still preserved; with the signature of the Diocessan, at his palace of Stow. "Here was a church, or minster, for secular priests, built to the memory of the blessed Virgin Mary, by Eadnorth, Bishop of Dorchester, and much augmented by the benefactions of Earl Leofric, and his Lady, Godiva. After the conquest, the religious here were changed into benedictine monks, under the government of an abbot, by Bishop Remigious, who got for them, of William Rufus, the desolate abbey of Eynsham, in Oxfordshire, whether his successor, Robert Bloet, removed them, reserving Stow, Newark, and some other estates, to the see of Lincoln, for which he gave them in exchange Charlbury, and others\*."

About one mile south-west of the church is

STOW PARK, which is now divided into four farms; and here are still traces of a large moated place, which, according to tradition, inclosed the Bishop's palace. Considerable foundations of buildings have been found here.

ASLACOE EAST AND WEST WAPENTAKES Contain the parishes of *Atterby, Cainby, Firshy east, Firshy west, Glentham, Hackthorn, Hanworth Cold, Normanby, Norton Bishop, Ownby, Saxby, Snitterby, Spridlington*:—*Blyborough, Cammeringham, Coates, Fillingham, Glentworth, Harpswell, Hemsell, Ingham, and Willoughton*. In the parish of Hemsell is

U u 3

SPITTAL

\* Tanner's Notitia.



SPITTAL IN THE STREET, taking the former name from having an hospital, and the latter as lying upon a Roman road. This place consists of a farm-house, an inn, a sessions-house, a chapel, and an almshouse for poor women. Over the chapel, which is a small building, is this inscription :

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Fui anno domini .. 1398 | } Domus Dei & pauperum. |
| Non fui ..... 1594      |                         |
| Sum..... 1616           |                         |

Qui hanc Deus hunc destruet.

The hospital, to which the chapel is annexed, was founded before the sixteenth of Edward the Second, and augmented by Thomas Aston, canon of Lincoln, in the time of Richard the Second. It is under the protection of the dean and chapter of Lincoln. Against the wall is—DEO & DIVITIBUS, AO. DNI. 1620. Over the sessions-house, *Hæc domus dat, amat, punit, conservat, honorat, Equitiam, pacem, crimina jura bonos.* 1620. Arms of Ulster. Over the door, *Fiat Justitia*, 1619. The manor belongs to the family of Wray, an ancestor of whom, who was Lord Chief Justice of England, built the sessions-house.

Near Spittal is NORTON PLACE, a handsome seat of John Harrison, Esq. M. P. The house was built in 1776, from a design, and under the direction, of Mr. Carr, architect, of York. The interior of the mansion consists of elegant apartments, commanding fine views of the pleasure grounds, which are laid out with taste; and a handsome stone bridge, of three arches, over an extensive piece of water, gives a pleasing effect to the surrounding scenery.

In the parish of *Fillingham* is SUMMER CASTLE, a family mansion of the Wrays\*. It was built of stone dug on the estate

in

\* This family was anciently seated in the county of Durham, and possessed estates in the county of York. Sir Christopher Wray, Knight, Lord

in the year 1760. The house is in the castellated form; square, with a circular bastion tower at each corner, and an embattled parapet. Standing on an eminence, the views from it are very extensive, bounded on the west by the Peak of Derbyshire, on the south by the high lands of Leicestershire, on the north by those of Yorkshire, and on the east by the Lincolnshire Wolds. The park is well wooded, and the effect of the plantations greatly heightened by that animated appearance which water ever gives to sylvan scenery. In the grounds adjacent to the castle are evident marks of a Roman camp; for in digging have been found Roman coins, broken spears, swords, and bridle ornaments. In a stone coffin were discovered human bones, cased in searcloth and lead, with the vacancies filled up with liquid lime and alabaster. Fossil shells have also been dug up here, such as ophites, or cornua ammonis, and pyrites.

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CORRINGHAM WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Blyton* and *Wharton*, *Cleatham* township, *Corringham* great and little, *Ferry* east, *Gainsborough*, *Grayingham*, *Heapham*, *Kirton*, *Laughton*, *Lea* and *Lea-wood*, *Morton* township, *Northorpe*, *Pilham*, *Scotter*, *Scotton*, *Southorpe*, *Springthorpe*, *Stockwith East* township, *Walkerith* township, and *Wildsworth* hamlet.

#### GAINSBOROUGH,

Though not a corporate, is a considerable market town, situated on the eastern bank of the Trent, and consists principally of one

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long

Lord Chief Justice of England in the time of Queen Elizabeth, on his first residence in this county, settled at *Glentworth*; in which church is a tomb erected to his memory, with the effigies of the judge in his robes, and his lady by his side.



long street, parallel with the river, which is navigable to this place for vessels of 150 tons burthen. It carries on a considerable trade in corn and other commodities to and from the coast, and also participates with Hull in the trade to the Baltic. Though the paralyzing effects of war have, in common with other commercial places, been felt here; yet centrally situated on a tide river, with which a communication is preserved, by means of canals from distant parts of the interior, it must, as long as a spirit of activity and industry remains, necessarily command a considerable share of trade. By the Readley Canal, which, uniting the Trent and the Dune, passes through a rich country to Rotherham, a communication is opened to Yorkshire; by the Chesterfield canal, which joins the Trent at Stockwith, four miles below the town, an easy access is opened to the counties of Nottingham and Derby; and at Torksey, about seven miles south, the Foss-Dyke admits the vessels of this port to Lincoln.

The *church* is a neat modern structure, of that motley architecture which is the disgrace of the present enlightened æra. Such incongruous edifices are a burlesque upon improvement, and a stigma on the national taste. In a more appropriate style is the fine stone bridge, of three elliptical arches, over the Trent, completed in 1791. It is private property; and even foot passengers are subject to a toll. The elevated road towards Bawtry was formed at the same time. In digging to lay the foundation of the western buttment of the bridge, an ancient dagger was found, supposed to be of Danish fabrication. The *town-hall*, in the market place, is occasionally used as an assembly room. It is a brick building, under which are shops, and a dismal place called the gaol. The sessions for this part of the county were formerly held here; but for some years past have been removed to Ritson. The *old hall*, commonly called the *palace*, is a singular edifice. It is constructed principally of oak timber framing, and forms three sides of a quadrangle, open to the south. The western exterior consists of a stack of large chimnies, built of brick. At the north-east corner is an embattled tower, having  
small

small windows, coped with stone, the arches of which are of the flat pointed style. Hence to the southern extremity of the eastern end, the facing is brick, with stone-coped windows. In the lower story of this wing is a large room, till lately used as a ball-room. On the northern side is a small handsome building, formerly the chapel. The staircase, made of oak, was very spacious; and a few years ago this, with the kitchen, and two immense fire-places remained entire. In the arches, within the hall, are niches, with figures of kings, warriors, &c. The highest tower is twenty-six yards in height; and the whole building was about six hundred feet square. It was once moated round, part of which is still visible, and had large gardens and fish-ponds. At the south end of the eastern wing is a sun-dial, bearing the date 1600; whence a conjecture has been formed, that it was erected about that time; but the building is evidently much older, though probably of a later period than the time of John of Gaunt, whose palace it is said to have been. It is now converted into apartments for families. In 1742 it was inhabited by Sir Neville Hickman, Bart. and is now the property of his descendent, Miss Hickman, of Thonock Grove.

Gainsborough is famous in history, as being the anchoring place of the Danish ships, when the sanguinary tyrant *Sweyne* ravaged and laid waste many parts of the country. Returning from his horrid expedition, Mathew, of Westminster, informs us, that he was here stabbed by an unknown hand, and thus received the punishment due to his crimes. On the south part of the town was an old chapel of stone, in the time of Leland, in which, tradition says, many Danes were buried. Some ages afterwards, Gainsborough formed part of the possessions of William de Valence, who obtained for it the privilege of a fair in the time of Edward the First. The Barons of Burgh, who formerly resided here, were descended from this nobleman, by the Scotch Earls of Athol, and the Percys, Earls of Northumberland.

Of this family, Thomas, Lord Burgh, grandson of Thomas, who was created Lord Burgh by King Henry the Eighth, was born here. He lived in the time of Queen Elizabeth, by whom

he



he was appointed to the highest trusts, and distinguished himself both in a diplomatic and military capacity. This town was also the birth-place of WILLIAM DE GAINSBOROUGH, who was bred a franciscan in Oxford, became an ambassador to King Edward the First; and for his zealous defence of the Pope's infallibility was, by Boniface the Eighth, preferred to the see of Worcester, where he died A. D. 1308. The learned and pious *Simon Patrick*, Bishop of Ely, was born here in 1626, and died in 1707.

The town has a good market on Tuesdays, and gives title of *Earl* to the noble family of *Noel*.

Half a mile to the north of this place, on a ridge that runs along the eastern bank of the Trent, are some embankments called the "CASTLE HILLS." The central encampment contains an area one hundred and seventy yards in circumference, surrounded by a double foss and vallum. These are higher and deeper towards the south-west than on the south-east, where the descent is immediate to the plain. On the south side of this circular work, and joining it, is another inclosed area, of an oblong shape, and surrounded, except the side towards the central camp, by a high raised mound, without a foss. The length from east to west is one hundred and fifty yards, and breadth from north to south fifty. On the northern side is another oblong inclosure, extending eighty yards, but the mound less perfect, and the site lower than the one to the south. The circular part appears to have been a Roman work, and the additions are probably Danish. Near this are several subordinate works; and along the ridge, to the southward, are various inclosed areas, both circular and oblong, of great dimensions; and many remains of antiquity have, at different times, been found in digging.

This station appears to have been occupied by the contending parties during the civil wars. Rushworth says, that near Gainsborough, Cromwell defeated General Cavendish, who was slain in a quagmire, by Cromwell's lieutenant, in 1643. The Lord Willoughby had before taken this town, and made the Earl of Kingston prisoner. The Earl being sent to Hull, was shot, in mistake, by the royalists in his passage over the Humber.

At

At HEYNINGS, two miles from Gainsborough, was a *cister-tian nunnery*, founded by Reynier Evermue about the year 1180. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had a prioress and twelve nuns; valued at the dissolution, according to Speed, at 58*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* when the site was granted to Sir Thomas Henneage. Gough, by mistake, states its revenues at 495*l.*

MANLEY WAPENTAKE, contains the following parishes and townships:—western division; *Althorpe*, *Amcotts* township, *Belton*, *Butterwick* west township, *Crowle*, *Eastoft* township, *Epworth*, *Garthorp* township, *Haxey*, *Keadby* township, *Luddington*, *Owston*, *Wroot*. Eastern division; *Ashby* township, *Bottesford*, *Broughton*, *Brumby* township, *Burringham* township, *Butterwick East* township, *Froddingham*, *Hibaldstow*, *Holme* township, *Manton*, *Messingham*, *Redbourn*, *Scawby* with *Sturton*, *Scunthorpe* township, *Waddingham*, *Yaddethorp* township. Northern division; *Appleby*, *Aukborough*, *Burton-upon-Stather*, *Crosby* township, *Flixborough*, *Gunhouse* township, *Halton West*, *Roxby cum Risby*, *Whitton*, *Winteringham*, and *Winterton*.

The river island of *Axholme* contains eight parishes, which are subdivided into thirteen constableries. The chief, or principal of these is *Epworth*, the manor of which, held by lease under the crown, includes the parishes of *Epworth*, *Haxey*, *Owston*, and *Belton*, also the townships of *Diddithorpe* and *Althorpe*.

HAXEY, whence the river island of *Axholme* derives its name, Camden says, "was anciently called *Axel*. But it hardly deserves the name of a town, it is so thinly inhabited." By the returns of the population made to parliament in 1801, it appears that the place then consisted of 323 houses, and contained 1,541 inhabitants. Here is the site of a castle which once belonged

to



to the *Mowbrays*, formerly lords of this neighbourhood, but the building was demolished in the baronial wars. In the year 1173, according to Mathew Paris, Roger de Mowbray, renouncing his allegiance to the old king\*, repaired a castle at Kinard Ferry, in the isle of Axholme, which had been destroyed of old. A body of Lincolnshire men crossed over in boats, and laid siege to the castle; forced the constable and all his men to surrender, and razed the castle. Leland says, "there was a castle at the south side of the chirch garth of *Oxtun*, whereof no peace now standith; the dike and the hill wher the *arx* stode yet be seene; it was sumtyme caullid *Kinard*†."

Near Milwood Park, formerly a seat of the *Mowbrays*, stood, according to Leland, a "fair carthusian monastery," in the church of which was buried John Mowbray, second Duke of Norfolk, and grandson of the first, who died in the eleventh year of Henry the Sixth. It was founded about the nineteenth year of Richard the Second, by Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, and Earl Marshal of England, who was afterwards Duke of Norfolk. The yearly revenues of this priory at the dissolution were, according to Dugdale, 237l. 15s. 2d. The site of it was granted, in the thirty-second of Henry the Eighth, to Mr. John Candish, who, Leland observes, in his time had turned "the monasterie to a goodly manor place." It went by the name of "*the Priory in the Wood*;" or, "the house of the visitation of the Blessed Virgin, near Eppworth, in the isle of Axholm."

#### EPWORTH

Is a long straggling town, the living of which is a rectory, and was held by the pious divine, Samuel *Wesley*, father of the celebrated leaders

\* Henry the Second, so called with respect to his son, who was in rebellion against his father.

† Leland's Itin. Vol. I. fol. 40 and 41.

leaders of the Arminian Methodists, *John and Charles Wesley*. The trade of this place, which is not very considerable, is chiefly the manufacture of sacking and bagging; for which there is one large factory, and several others of less note. A great quantity of hemp and flax is grown in this part of the county; and the poor are chiefly employed in spinning it. Here is a market on Thursdays, and two annual fairs. Quantities of large oaks, with acorns, fir, and other kinds of trees, some of which appear to have been burnt, and others cut down, are frequently found at the depth of three feet beneath the surface in this neighbourhood. In the Gentleman's Magazine for May, 1749, it is stated, "that at *Crowle*, on the river Dune, was found the body of a woman standing upright in a peat moss, and two ancient shoes." About three miles from Epworth is *Temple Belwood*, the seat of William Johnson, Esq.

At *Hirst* was a cell of black canons of St. Austin annexed to Nostell Abbey, in the county of York, valued at 5l. 10s. Here is a seat of Cornelius Stevin, Esq.

At AUKBOROUGH Dr. Stukeley places the AQUIS of Ravens, having discovered a Roman castrum and a vicinal road. "The Roman castle is square, 300 feet each side, the entrance north, the west side is objected to the steep cliff hanging over the Trent, which here falls into the Humber; for this castle is very conveniently placed in the north-west angle of Lincolshire, as a watch tower over all Nottingham and Yorkshire, which it surveys. I am told the camp is now called *Countess Close*, and they say a Countess of Warwick lived there, perhaps owned the estate; but there are no marks of building, nor I believe ever were. The vallum and ditch are very perfect. Before the north entrance is a square plot, called *the Green*, where I suppose the Roman soldiers lay *pro castris*. In it is a round work, formed into a labyrinth, which they call *Julian's Bower*.\*" The places which go by this name, are generally discovered near Roman towns.

\* *Itinerarium Curiosum*, p. 91.



towns. They are circular works, made of banks of earth, in the form of a maze, or labyrinth; the common people indulge an idea, that they are extraordinary things; and boys often divert themselves by running, in their various windings and turnings, through and back again. The doctor thinks it was one of the old Roman games, which were brought into Italy from Troy; and that it took the latter name, not from *lœwer*, an arbour, but from *borough*, any work consisting of earth ramparts; and the former from *Julus*, the son of *Æneas*, who introduced it into Italy, according to the account of Virgil, in his fifth *Æneid*. That the intent of it was to exercise their youth in military activity; and that it was also a practice of the ancient Britons, which they derived from their Phrygian descent.

A mile to the south of *Winteringham*, at WINTERTON, where the Roman road disappears, Stukeley asserts, was the station *AD ABUM* \*. “Upon a rising ground at the end of the road, a little to the right, and half a mile east of the present *Winteringham*, stood the old Roman town, of which they (the people) have a perfect knowledge, and ploughed up great foundations within memory; 'tis now a common, skirted by the marshes of the Humber. The city was plowed up six years ago, and great numbers of antiquities found, now lost; great pavements, chimney-stones, &c. often breaking their plows: in several places they found streets made of sea sand and gravel. The old haven mouth is called *Flashmire*. This place is over against *Brough*, the Roman town on the Yorkshire shore †.” Winterton has a corporation, but is a place of little trade. It contains 174 houses, and 773 inhabitants.

In Winterton Great Corn Fields, near *Roxby*, by ploughing, were discovered, in the year 1747, three curious *tessellated pavements*, which have been destroyed. The Society of Antiquaries, in 1750, had them engraved. One of them was thirty feet in length,  
by

\* Horsley says, that the ancient name of the Humber was *Abus*.

† Itin. Curios. p. 90.

by nineteen feet broad, and was supposed to have been the floor of a dining-room. It had, in the centre, a figure of Orpheus playing on his harp, surrounded by beasts; at the corners four-handled wine vessels, for libations. In the centre of another, which was forty-four feet by fifteen, was the figure of Ceres, holding in her hands ears of corn: and on a third, which was the least perfect, was the figure of a stag, in a bounding attitude. At the same time and place were dug up quantities of Roman bricks and tiles, but no coins; and a large brazen eagle, probably a military standard.

At ROXBY, near the church, was found a *tessellated pavement*, composed of red, blue, and white tessellæ, "six or seven yards long, by more wide," with ox bones, pieces of red and yellow plaister, and large stones. At APPLEBY is a rampart, called *Julian's Bower*. At HIEBALDSTOW are the foundations of Roman buildings, where numerous tiles, coins, and other fragments of antiquity have been found. Similar remains have been discovered at *Broughton*\*, where is a tumulus, or barrow; and near it is a petrifying spring, where fossil fish have been dug up. At SANDTON are barrows, and a Roman pottery was found there; and between Scalby and Manton is an ancient encampment. Indeed, along the whole of this part of the line of the *Ermin Street*, numerous remains of the Romans have been discovered at different periods. Not far distant from Broughton are the ruins of

THORNEHAM,

\* At, or near this place, Horsley is disposed to fix the station named PRÆTORIUM. Some copies having against this station XXII. for XXV. which he considers answers very well to the distance between this place and *Wighton*, in the county of York, where he fixes the DELGOVITIA of Antoninus. "And both *Prætorium*, in the Itinerary, and *Præsidium*, suit so well the present name of Broughton, as to leave some doubt with me whether both of them might not be fixed at this place, upon a supposition either of a change in the name, or that the latter station might have risen out of the former." *Britannia Romana*, p. 407.



THORNEHAM, or THORNHOLM PRIORY, which was founded, for canons of the order of St. Austin, by King Stephen, and endowed, at the suppression, with 155l. 19s. 6d. annual income, according to Speed. It was granted, by Henry the Eighth, to Charles, Duke of Suffolk.

YARBOROUGH WAPENTAKE contains these parishes and townships:—East division; *Croxton, Habrough, Halton East, Immingham, Keelby, Killingholme North, Killingholme South, Kirmington, Limber Magna, Limber Parva, cum Brocklesby, Riby, Stallingborough.* South division; *Barnetby le Wold, Bigby, Cadney with Housham, Castor, Clisby, Glandford Brigg* township, *Grassby, Kelsey North, Melton Ross, Nettleton, Searby with Owmby, Summerby, Wrasby cum Brigg.* North division; *Barrow, Barton St. Mary's, Barton St. Peter's, Bonby, Elsham, Ferriby, Gothill, Horkstow, Saxby, Thornto-Curtis, Ulceby, Wootton, and Worlaby.*

#### GLANFORD BRIDGE, OR BRIGG,

As usually called, is a small market town, on the banks of the *Ancholme* river, over which is a strong stone bridge. Here was an *hospital*, founded by the predecessors of Ralph Paynel, and, as Tanner thinks, by Adam Paynel, in the time of King John. It was subordinate to the abbey of Selby, in Yorkshire; a monk of which house was always the master.

At *Elsham*, adjoining, was an *hospital* for several poor brethren, begun by Beatrix de Amundevill, which her son completed, and committed to the care of a friar, and regular canons of the Augustin order, previous to the year 1166. About the year 1180, the knight's hospitalers made some pretensions to it, but

but were obliged to abandon their claim. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Edmund; and a little before the suppression it had five canons, when its possessions were valued, according to Dugdale, at 70l. 0s. 8d. The site was granted to Charles, Duke of Suffolk. To the south was *Novus Locus*, or *Newsted-on-Ancholme*, a *Gilbertine Priory*. King Henry the Second gave to St. Gilbert, and the canons of Sempringham, an island called *Rucholm*, within the bounds of *Cadney*, thereon to found a priory of their order, which was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and endowed, at the dissolution, with 38l. 13s. 5d. according to Dugdale. The site was granted to Sir Robert Henneage.

*Neus*, or *Neuhouse*, the first *Premonstratensian* abbey in England, was built by *Peter de Gousla*, or *Gousel*, A. D. 1143, according to the "Mailross Chronicle;" but according to the "Monasticon Anglicanum," A. D. 1146, to the honour of St. Mary and St. *Martial*. At the dissolution it had an abbot and eleven canons, who were possessed of an annual revenue of 114l. 1s. 4d. It was then given, by Henry the Eighth, to Charles, Duke of Suffolk.

WORLABY gave the title of Baron to Lord John Belasyse, who had that honour conferred on him by King Charles the First, for his loyalty and attachment. But his son, Lord Harry, being attainted of the popish plot, in the time of James the Second, was confined some years in the Tower of London, where he died, 1668. The title is extinct; and the estates have descended to Sir John Webb, Bart. of Candford Magna, in the county of Dorset. The old seat, Gough says, still remains; over the door of which is the motto, "Bonne & Belle assez." In the east window of the chancel was some handsome *stained glass*, representing the descent from the cross; but it has unfortunately been mutilated by a ruthless glazier.

At HORKSTOW have been found many Roman remains. These consisted chiefly of *tessellated pavements* and foundations.



Mr. S. Lysons has published some plates, with descriptions of them, in the first number of a work entitled *Reliquiæ Romanæ*.

#### BARTON UPON HUMBER,

A market town, pleasantly situated on the southern side of the river Humber, about three quarters of a mile from its banks, is a place of high antiquity. It was once surrounded by a rampart and foss, the remains of which are yet visible in what are called *the Castle Dikes*. This place was probably otherwise fortified against the irruptions of the Saxons and Danes, who, in their predatory visits, often laid waste the country on both sides the river. Of its consequence at that period, nothing can be collected, but from tradition. At the time of the conquest it is stated to have been a place of some importance, and a principal port on the river Humber. It was then a corporate town, and, till the erection of Kingston-upon-Hull, by Edward the First, carried on a considerable trade. When Edward the Third issued mandates to raise a force for the invasion of France, Barton furnished, according to one account, three ships and thirty men; and, to another, five ships and ninety-one men: while some of the present sea-ports on the eastern coast were even not mentioned.

The manor belongs to the crown. A court-leet is held half-yearly, for the cognizance of offences committed within the town; and a court-baron every three weeks, for the recovery of small debts. Though there is but one parish, there are two large churches. The mother church, dedicated to St. Peter, appears, from the tower, to have been built about the time of the Conqueror; but the body of the church was rebuilt after the introduction of the pointed arch. It consists of a nave and two aisles. In the window of the chancel are two figures in stained glass; the one habited as a pilgrim, said to be an effigy of the famous warrior, Lord Beaumont, to whom the manor was granted by King Henry the Second.

St.

St. Mary's church, considered a chapel of ease to that of St. Peter, is evidently a more modern building, and is very spacious. These being repaired by separate districts, has probably given rise to the idea, that the town contains two parishes. Barton is an improving place, and carries on a considerable trade in corn, having several flour mills in the vicinity, and others for the manufacture of Paris whiting, and French barley. But it is principally noted for being the place where the great northern road passes the Humber to Hull; and the great improvement which has been made in the ferry, and the additional accommodations made for travellers, within these few years, have rendered it a great thoroughfare. A neat packet-boat for passengers, and another for carriages, cross and recross the river every day. The town has a well supplied weekly market on Mondays, and another for fat cattle once a fortnight. Its annual fair is held the Thursday after Trinity. According to the returns under the late act, the number of houses was 412, and of inhabitants 1709. About two miles to the east of this town is

BARROW, a large, but irregularly built village. It was formerly the seat of the ancient and celebrated family of *Tirwhit*, of Cornwall. About a mile north-west of it, in a marsh, stands a large earth work, called the *Castle*, which, tradition says, was erected by *Humber*, when he invaded Britain, in the time of the Trojan Brutus. Stukeley says, "it is dissonant from any thing I ever saw;" and, after a minute investigation, considers it to be "an *alate temple*" of the Britons, and places it in the third class of his "*druidical buildings*." Having thus decided on its origin, he gives an account of what he conceived to have been its form, and describes the dimensions. Its features, however, are more of a military than a religious kind; and it was probably an entrenched camp of the Britons, who, in many instances, preferred such inundated situations. Adjacent to the foundations are several tumuli, or long barrows. In some, on the north side, which have been opened, were found human bones, ashes, urns, &c.



At CROXHIL, generally misnamed *Gokewell* and *Gorhill*, was a priory for Cistercian nuns, founded by William de Alta Ripa, before the year 1185. A little to the south are the noble ruins of THORNTON ABBEY, which was founded by William le Grass, Earl of Albemarle, and Lord of Holderness, A. D. 1139, for black canons. Dugdale informs us, that when first founded it was a priory, and the monks, with Richard their prior, were introduced from the monastery of Kirkham; but was changed into an abbey, and Richard made abbot, by Pope Eugenius the Third, A. D. 1148. The founder died about the year 1180, and was supposed to have been interred within the walls. King Henry the Eighth, his Queen, and attendants, were splendidly entertained, in a visit they made the abbot in the year 1541. At the dissolution, when the revenues were valued at 730l. 17s. 2d. according to Speed, the King appears not to have been unmindful of the flattering attentions he had received; for though he suppressed the abbey, he reserved the greater part of the lands to endow a *college*, which he erected in its room, for a dean and prebendaries, to the honour of the Holy and Undivided Trinity. This was a large establishment, for after the dissolution of it, A. D. 1553, in the sixth year of Edward the Sixth, it is asserted by Willis, that nineteen members received pensions. At that time it was granted, in exchange, to the Bishop of Lincoln.

From the remains, it must have been a magnificent building. Originally it consisted of an extensive square, surrounded by a deep ditch, with high ramparts, and built in a style adapted for occasional defence. The gate-house, which formed the western entrance, is yet tolerably entire. The entrance-road is flanked with brick walls, having loop-hole arches, supporting a broad battlement, and terminating in two round towers, between which was formerly a draw-bridge. The grand entrance arch is still perfect; over it is a parapet, four feet broad, and opening into a cell, probably the porter's lodge. The front has been richly ornamented with cornices, niches, and statues. There is a groove for a portcullis, and parts of the great wooden doors are still pendant

pendant on their massy hinges. The roof is finely groined, the ribs of which are supported by elegant brackets, enriched with flowers and figures. Over the gateway are two rooms, and four handsome hexagonal towers form the four angles. A winding staircase opens into a spacious apartment, probably the refectory. The brackets which supported the ceilings are half length human figures, so distorted in their countenances, as if represented in purgatory. On the east side of the refectory is another room, with recesses in both sides. To the east of the gateway, are the remains of the *abbey church*. The chapter house, part of which is standing, was of an octangular shape, and highly decorated, having round it, under its handsome windows, an arcade, consisting of pointed arches, with cinquefoiled heads, and in the centre of each an ornamented trefoil pendent drop. The abbot's lodge, which stood to the south, is occupied as a farm-house. The site of this abbey belonged some years to the family of Sutton, but is now the property of George Uppleby, Esq.

On a high ridge of the downs, west of Thornton, is YARBOROUGH CAMP; a large entrenchment, said to be of Roman origin. From its lofty situation very extensive views are obtained, particularly to the east. Vast quantities of Roman coins have been found here, among which were some of the Emperor *Licinius*. East of this is

BROCKLESBY PARK, the seat of Lord Yarborough. The house is not remarkable for its architecture, but his lordship has recently made many additions and alterations to the building and park; among which is an elegant *Picture Gallery*, from designs by C. H. Tatham, Esq. a gentleman who has distinguished himself both in architecture and in some scientific works on the subject. The length of the gallery, which was finished in 1807, is sixty-three feet, the breadth forty-eight, by twenty feet high. The ceiling is very elegant, being enriched with antique vases. That compartment appropriated to the cabinet pictures, has an arched

X x 3

ceiling,



ceiling, highly ornamented. The gallery contains a fine collection of paintings, which were bequeathed to Lord Yarborough by the late Mr. Aufere, of Chelsea, near London. A few years since his lordship erected in the park an elegant *Chapel* and *Mausoleum*, which was begun under the direction of James Wyatt, Esq. in the year 1787; and completed in the year 1794. The elevation on which it stands is a tumulus, once a place of Roman sepulture, as appears from the sepulchral urns that have been discovered here: these contained burnt bones and ashes; also rings, combs, and small perforated stones. The chapel, which was consecrated by Bishop Prettyman, in June 1794, is an elegant circular building, having fluted Doric columns, supporting a rich entablature, and surmounted by a dome, which is surrounded by an open ballustrade, &c. The interior is divided into four compartments, by eight fluted columns of the Corinthian order, supporting a highly decorated and lofty dome. Beneath the chapel is a vault, with compartments and recesses for depositing coffins. This is divided also by pillars, and has a circular sarcophagus in the centre. The whole, which displays much elegance and taste, is highly ornamental to the park, which is extensive, and diversified by numerous plantations and swelling grounds.

#### CASTOR,

CAISTOR, or THONG-CASTOR, according to Camden, who follows some old chronologists, was called by the Britons *Caer-Egarry*, and by the Saxons Thong-Castor. The latter name, it is said, to have derived from a circumstance that occurred in the time of Hengist. This Saxon general, after defeating the Scots and Picts, obtained from Vortigern very extensive possessions in other parts of the island, and was granted as much land at this place as he could encompass with the hide, or skin, of an ox. This being cut into small strips, or thongs, extended round a large plot of ground, on which he built a fortified mansion, since called  
*Thong-*

*Thong-Castle.* Of Byrsa, a famous citadel of Carthage, a similar story is related; and other parallel traditions are told of Thong-Castle, near Sittingbourne, in Kent. Whence the author of the History of England, in Latin heroic verse, has thus parodied the allusion in Virgil:—

“ Accipitque solum facti de nomine *Thongum*,  
Taurino quantum poterat circumdare tergo.”

“ He had the spot called from the story *Thong*,  
What a bull's hide inclosed when laid along.”

The British name of *Caer* affixed to a place, always refers to a British or Roman fortress. Its present name is from the Roman *Castrum*, and a Roman road goes from this place in a south easterly direction, passing a station at *Ludford*, towards *Horncastle*.—“ There can be no doubt that this castle was built long before Hengist's time; for I saw enough of the old *Roman wall* to evince its founders. One great piece stands on the virge of the church-yard, another by a house. There are more behind the school-house in the pastures, and I have met with many men that have dug at its foundations in several places. It is built of white rag-stone, laid sometimes side-ways, sometimes flat, in mortar, exceedingly hard, full of pebbles and sand; nor is it mixed to any fineness, so that I conjecture they used to pour the mortar on liquid, as soon as the lime was slaked\*.” This, which was called *boiling mortar*, with the herring bone manner of laying some of the stones, is peculiarly characteristic of the Roman mode of building.

The soil hereabouts abounds with springs, one of which, called *Syfer*†, is very peculiar. Its waters flow in four directions, be-

X x 4

tween

\* Stakeley's Itin. p. 96.

† Stakeley derives the name from the *Saxon* word *Syfer*, which he says means, “ pure, clean, as the stream here deserves to be called.” Is it not more probable, on the doctor's own hypothesis, of its having been a Roman British city, that it comes from the *British* word *syvyr*, pronounced *syfer*, which signifies hard, and is descriptive of this water.



tween the joints of large stones, which are laid flat like a wall, and are connected together by rivets of lead. At Castle-hill many bodies have been dug up, and a stone, of irregular or mutilated shape, with an inscription, which the late Mr. Bradley, of Lincoln, read—*Cruci spoliū, quod Egbert rex in honorem*.—This is supposed to have been inscribed in honour, and as a memorial of the victory obtained by Egbert near this place, over Wiglof, king of Mercia, A. D. 827. Castor has a small weekly market, on Saturdays, and three annual fairs. By the returns made under the act for taking an account of the population of the kingdom, the number of houses was 193, of inhabitants 861. A ceremony, respecting a peculiar *tenure*\*, not mentioned by Camden, or Blount, takes place at Castor church every Palm Sunday.—A person enters the church-yard with a green silk purse, containing two shillings, and a silver penny tied at the end of a cart-whip, which he cracks three times in the porch, and continues there till the second lesson begins; when he goes into the church, and cracks the whip again three times over the clergyman's head. After kneeling before the desk during the reading of the lesson, he presents the minister with the purse, and then returning to the choir, he waits the remainder of the service. Mr. Gough thinks, that two shillings are probably substituted for *twenty-four pence*, as the tenure appears to have been antecedent to the coinage of shillings; "which," he observes, "were not common till the reign of Edward the Sixth."

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BRADLEY HAVERSTOE WAPENTAKE contains the following parishes:—*Ashby cum Fenby, Aylesby, Barnoldby-le-Beck, Beelsby, Beesby, Haverby and Cadeby, Bradley, Briggsley, Caboun, Clee, Cleethorpe township, Coates Great, Coates Little, Coates north, Cuxwold, Fulston, Grainsby, Grimsby Great, Hatcliffe, Healing, Holton le Clay, Humberstone, Irby, Laceby,*

\* The lands held by this, are situated in the parish of Broughton.

*Laceby, Marsh Chapel, Ravendale East, Ravendale West, Rothwell, Scartho, Swallow, Swinhope, Tetney, Thoresby North, Waith, Woltham, and Wold Newton.*

### GRIMSBY, OR GREAT GRIMSBY,

So called to distinguish it from a village of the same name, is a borough, market, and sea-port town, which formerly possessed a considerable share of foreign commerce, and was distinguished for its internal trade. The town still enjoys many immunities, has a weekly market on Wednesdays, and an annual fair on St. Bartholomew's day. It also sends two members to parliament. Of its origin and ancient history much has been written. The story, that it was founded by a merchant named Gryme, who obtained great riches in consequence of having brought up an exposed child, called *Haveloc*, who proved to be of royal Danish blood, and, from being scullion in the King's kitchen, had the honour to marry the King's daughter, is ridiculed by Camden, and placed among old wives' fables. The corporation seal, which appears to be very ancient, however, emblematically gives countenance to such a story, whether fictitious or true. Holles supposes this town was founded by a Norwegian pirate; and Macpherson observes, "Grimsby is noted by the Norwegian, or Islandic writers, as an emporium, resorted to by merchants from Norway, Scotland, Orkney, and the Western Islands\*."

The town is governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, and thirty-six burgesses. The mayor and bailiffs hold separate courts; the former on Tuesday, the latter on Friday. The first charter was granted in the reign of King John. It was once rich and populous, and carried on considerable trade. In the reign of Edward the Third, Grimsby furnished eleven ships, and one hundred and seventy mariners, to assist at the siege of Calais. But the trade afterwards forsook it, and the harbour became

\* Annals of Commerce, Vol. I. p. 391.



became nearly choaked with sand. Formerly it was fortified with two blockhouses, of which no traces remain. The spirit of the place has of late revived. The harbour has been improved, and a dock constructed at a great expence, by which means the trade of the port has been increased, and the town extended by many additional buildings. In the town were formerly two churches, that of St. Mary's, which was an handsome building, and its steeple a good land mark for mariners, has been long since taken down. *St. James's church* is a spacious structure, built in the form of a cross, with a tower in the centre. Originally it was of greater extent, a part of the choir having fallen down about the year 1600. The steeple is a beautiful specimen of English pointed architecture, and appears to have suffered less from the depredations of time than other parts of the church. The alterations it has undergone at different periods by no means correspond with the style of the original building. In the upper part of the steeple is this inscription, "Pray for the soule of *John Empringham*." This person was eminent, according to Gervas Holles\*. This gentleman was born here in the reign of Henry the Fourth, and was a considerable benefactor to the church. The large west window had figures of the Kings of Judah branching off from the stem of Jesse. In the church are many ancient monuments and inscribed stones, some of which appear to have been removed from the three monasteries that were formerly in the town.

Beside a monastery of gray friars, and a convent of benedictine nuns, Grimsby had a priory of Augustine canons, founded by King Henry the First, who liberally endowed, and conferred on it several privileges. These, his son, Henry the Second, confirmed, and further granted, that the monks should enjoy their lands and rentals free from all exactions and secular services; a proof of the power and influence of the religious orders during that period of our history.

Stow

\* He has given a minute description of the monuments and armorial bearings painted in the several windows in this church, among the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum.

Stow relates, that JOHN WALSH, a native of this place, being accused of high treason by a gentleman of Navarre, did, on St. Andrew's day, in the eighth year of King Richard the Second, A. D. 1385, enter the lists to combat with the "Navarois, named Martileto de Vilenos," that he might, according to the custom of the times, refute the charge, by obtaining the victory over his antagonist; which having gained, his traducer was hanged for false accusation.

The brightest ornament of this place was that eminently distinguished prelate, Dr. JOHN WHITGIFT, *Archbishop of Canterbury*. He received his education in the university of Cambridge, where he became master of Trinity College, and regius professor of divinity. He was first promoted to the see of Worcester, and thence translated to the metropolitan see of Canterbury. A lover of order, he became a zealous assertor of the doctrines and discipline of the established church, against the violent advocate of the puritans, *Cartwright*, who, with his followers, were encouraged and supported in their opposition by numerous friends at court. Whitgift, however, conducted the controversy with so much wisdom, moderation, and piety, that he overcame and won over many of his adversaries, though he could not convince those obstinate enemies, who would be satisfied with nothing, except the overthrow of the constitution, and destruction of the hierarchy. This prelate was born in the year 1530, and died February 29th, A. D. 1603. About two miles from Great Grimsby is the small village of

CLEE, which has a very ancient church, consisting of a nave, with north and south ailes, separated from the former by round massy columns. These support semicircular arches, variously ornamented with zigzag, cable, and billet mouldings. In this church is a curious *font*, formed of two cylindrical parts, one placed upon the other; over which, in the shaft of the circular column, is inlaid a small piece of marble, with a Latin inscription in Saxon characters, referring to the time of King Richard, and stating that



that it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity and St. Mary, by Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln. The date, A. D. 1192.

In the vicinity of this place are many of those extraordinary fountains, called BLOW-WELLS. These are deep circular pits, which furnish a continued flow of water in a considerable stream. They are vulgarly supposed unfathomable; but Mr. Young says, "Sir Joseph Banks found the bottom without difficulty\*." At a small distance from Clee is

CLEETHORPE, a township, which is inhabited by a few fishermen only in the winter, but in the summer season is much resorted to for sea-bathing. Persons visiting it for that purpose will find an excellent hotel for their accommodation.

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LUDBOROUGH WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of, *Brackenborough, Covenham St. Bartholomew, Covenham St. Mary, Fotherby, Grimsby Little, Ludborough, Ormsby North, Utterby, and Wyham cum Cadeby.*

At COVENHAM, William Carileph, Bishop of Durham, founded a benedictine *priory* about the year 1082, and made it a cell to Durham; but afterwards, in the thirtieth year of Edward the First, it was given to Kirksted abbey. No remains of this priory are at present left.

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WALSHCROFT WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of, *Claxby, Holton le Moor, Kelsey South, Kingerby, Newton, Normanby on the Wold, Osgodby with Kirkby, Owersby North End, Owersby South End, Rasin West, Thornton le Moor, Toft, Usselby.—Binbrooke St. Gabriel, Binbrooke St. Mary, Croxby,*

\* General View, p. 15.

*Croxby, Linwood, Rasin Market, Rasin Middle, Tupholm and Drakes, Stainton le Hole, or Stainton Vale, Tealby, Thoresway, Thorganby, Wallsby, and Willingham North.*

#### MARKET RASIN,

A small town, so called from lying upon the *Rasin*, a stream which flows into the river *Ancholme*, and having on Tuesdays a well frequented *market*. The only thing here calculated to excite notice is the peculiar form of the upper windows in the embattled tower of the church. They have a pointed arch, divided into two pointed lights, and a quaterfoil head. Up the centre goes a strong mullion, crossed by a transom, terminating at the imposts. These are similar to those of Yarborough church, near Louth. Both were erected, it is probable, at the same period; for on the south side of the tower of each is a representation of our first parents on the branches of a fruit tree, on the trunk of which is the dart of death, allusive to the effects of eating the forbidden fruit. The living is a vicarage, in the gift of the crown; and in the endowment, the vicar is entitled to the unusual *tythe of ale*.

In the town is a Roman Catholic chapel, a Methodist meeting house, a small free school, and an hospital for four poor men.

The church of St. Peter, in MIDDLE RASIN, an adjoining village, is small, but has a curious entrance porch, with zigzag, nailhead, and other mouldings. The chancel is separated from the nave by elegant screen work, beneath a pointed arch, supported by Norman circular pillars, which was probably coeval with the doorway. The nave appears to have had side aisles, as the pillars and pointed arches stand in relief from the present wall. This place is divided into two parishes, called *Drax* and *Tupholm*. The latter had an *abbey of premonstratensian* canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, founded by *Alan de Neville*, and

his



his brother Gilbert, in the time of Henry the Second; in which, at the dissolution, were nine monks, who, according to Speed, had the annual income of 119l. 2s. 8d. The site was granted to Sir Thomas Henneage.

To the church of St. Peter, called Tapholme, in Middle Rasin, Gilbert de Bland, of that place, gave, among other donations, one part of his meadow in Lissingley. This, which contains between five and six hundred acres of very wet land, was once, according to tradition, a park belonging to Sir John Burlingthorpe, and granted him by royal favour. This is said to have been conferred as a reward for his courage and prowess, in attacking and slaying a dragon which infested the neighbourhood. A similar story is related of Sir Hugh Bardolph, who is said to have slain another at Walmsgate. These *Draconcides*, or *dragon-slayers*, were men who, by their skill or liberality, carried on works of drainage, and other improvements in their respective neighbourhoods, by which the floods and tides being prevented from continually inundating the lands, the head of these *hydra monsters* were cut off, and prevented from again terrifying people by their ominous and unwelcome appearance. Near Rasin is

WILLINGHAM HOUSE, the seat of *Ayscough Boucherett, Esq.* member of parliament for Great Grimsby. It is an elegant mansion, situated on the south-west side of the wolds, and was erected in the year 1790. It stands about two miles west of the site of an old mansion.

THURGUNBY, an ancient seat of the Willoughbys, is now the residence of *Lord Middleton*. Situated on an eminence, the house commands a view over the vale, to Swinhop. Some fine old timber gives this place a sylvan feature, which is rarely seen on the *Wolds*. The grounds behind the house are finely varied, and the declivous sides terminate in a narrow vale, through which runs a small trout-stream.

LOUTH

LOUTH ESKE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Alvingham, Carlton Castle, Carlton Great, Carlton Little, Conisholme, Grainthorpe cum Ludney and Wragholme, Grimoldby, Manby, Reston North, Saltfleetby All Saints, Saltfleetby St. Clement's, Saltfleetby St. Peter's, Skidbrook with Saltfleet Haven, Somercotes North, Somercotes South, Yarborough.*—*Authorpe, Burwell, Calcethorpe, Cockerington St. Leonard, Cockerington St. Mary, Elkington North, Elkington South, Farforth with Maiden Well, Gayton le Wold, Hallington, Haugham, Keddington, Kelsterne, Louth, Louth Park, Muckton, Raithby with Maltby, Ruckland, Steuton, Tathwell, Wetton le Wold, Withcall, and Wykeham.* The principal place in, and which gives name to the wapentake, is

#### LOUTH,

Anciently called *Luda*, from the situation on the *Lud*, a small rivulet, formed by the confluence of two streams, is a large well built town, in a fertile valley, at the eastern foot of the *Wolds*. The valley, which runs east and west, is sheltered on the north and south by sloping hills of indurated chalk, whose horizontal strata are principally covered with an argillaceous soil for several inches deep. Towards the west the rising grounds afford numerous and varied prospects. The scenery of the *Wolds* is highly diversified with hill and dale, and the interesting effects which arise from wild irregularity; but being generally devoid of wood, the features are not so intricate and picturesque as the more mountainous or woody parts of the island. To the east is a level, wooded country, which is agreeably interspersed with villages, churches, and mansions.

Respecting this place history is nearly silent. In the rebellion of the year 1536, occasioned by the suppression of religious houses, the inhabitants of Louth, under Dr. Mackerel, *alias Captain Cobler*, the prior of Barling's abbey, took part in the  
insurrection.



insurrection. This person, with the vicar of Louth, and thirteen other ringleaders, were afterwards put to death.

In this place were established three religious fraternities, called "*The Guild of our Blessed Lady, the Guild of the Holy Trinity, and the Chantry of John of Louth.*" In the time of Edward the Sixth, the funds which had been conferred on these guilds were alienated, and granted for the purpose of erecting and endowing a *free grammar school*. The lands then brought 40l. per annum, but are now let for 400l. One half was granted for a head master's salary, one-fourth for the usher's, and the remainder was to be appropriated for the maintenance of twelve poor women, in perpetual succession. The trustees of this foundation were incorporated by the name of "The warden, and six assistants, of the town of Louth, and free school of King Edward the Sixth, in Louth." The common seal\*, yet used by this corporate body, is a curious specimen of the uncouth ideas of the time. It exhibits a man exercising the birch upon the posteriors of a suppliant youth, while other scholars are shewn at their forms. The motto:—QVI PARCIT VIRGE OBIT FILIV. 1552.

In this town is another *free-school* for poor boys, founded in pursuance of the Will of the late Dr. Mapletoft, Dean of Ely, bearing date August the 17th, 1677. It is on a very respectable scale, and the annual salary of the master is forty guineas.

The *church* of St. James is a large, handsome structure, and consists of a nave, two aisles, with an elegant tower and spire at the west end. The east end, which presents a fine elevation, exhibits a large central window, having six upright mullions and varied tracery, with two lateral windows opening into the aisles. These are separated by two well proportioned buttresses, ornamented by canopied niches; in the gable battlements are quatrefoils with crockets, and the angular point supports a fleury cross. The nave and aisles are embattled, and have numerous crocketed pinnacles. Internally the nave is separated from the aisles by octagonal

\* This is engraved with a plan of the town, and published by Mr. Jackson, of Louth.



*Engraved by H. Le Keux, from a drawing by T. E. spin of Louth, for the Beauties of England & Wales.*

**LOUTH STEEPLE &c.**  
(from the S.E.)  
Lincolnshire.

*London: Published by T. Agnew & Sons, Pall Mall, Sep. 1. 1841.*





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gonal columns, the alternate sides of which are relieved by single flutes. The capitals are plain, and the pointed arches are formed by arcs of circles, whose centres are the opposite imposts. The ceiling rests upon corbels, composed of grotesque heads. The chancel, which has an altar piece, containing a picture of the descent from the cross, painted by Williams, is of more modern date than the body of the church, and probably is coeval with the justly admired *steeple*. The latter, which is the most elegant part of the building, was begun, as appears from a manuscript still extant, under the direction of *John Cole*, a master mason, or architect, in the year 1501, who conducted the work about four years. After that time it went progressively on under the management of Lawrence and William Lemyng, with Christopher Scuee. The whole of this stately edifice was completed in fifteen years, for the sum of 305l. 7s. 5d. The height of the spire was originally 360 feet: but the flat stone on the summit was blown off in the year 1587, and carried with it part of the building into the body of the church. The damage was repaired the following year, at the expence of 30l. The whole spire was blown down on the 11th of October, 1634, and the present one erected, under the direction of *Thomas Turner*, whose charge amounted only to the sum of 81l. 7s. The extra expences were 54l. 2s. 9d. making together 135l. 9s. 9d. The top stone has on its north and north-eastern sides *Tho. Turner*, and on the eastern side the date 1635. The tower part of the steeple consists of three stories, the second of which has two mullioned windows, with tracery, in every front. In the third story, or tier, are two more highly ornamented windows in each face, and surmounted by crocketed canopies, in bold relief. The angles of the tower are supported by buttresses, which contract as they advance in height, still preserving the finest proportion. Each stage terminates with elegant pediments, supported by ornamental corbels; in this manner diminishing to the top, where are octagonal, embattled turrets, thirty feet high, whence issue four pinnacles, the angles of which are adorned with crockets, and end with finials.



At eighty feet from the base, round the exterior of the tower, runs a gallery, guarded by a parapet wall; and at the height of one hundred and seventy feet the battlements commence, which are pierced with embrasures, and separated by the pedestals of three small pinnacles on each side. The octangular centre spire, in four of its sides, is connected to the corner turrets by spandrels or flying buttresses of excellent workmanship. In those faces answering the cardinal points are small pointed windows, and the corners of the spire are enriched with crockets, which contribute to its decorated appearance. The top stone projects with a cornice, and the height of the spire to the cross is one hundred and forty-one feet. The total height of the whole is two hundred and eighty-eight feet. The masquary of the tower and spire is often admired for its execution. The living of St. James's parish is a vicarage, in the gift of a prebendary of Lincoln cathedral, to which it was annexed by the conqueror.

The vicarage house, which stands contiguous to the church-yard, is an old *thatched building*, and the present vicar has, in union with its appearance, laid out his garden in a curious style of ingenious *rusticity*; it is denominated the *hermitage*. Interspersed among planted walks are several small buildings, and seats, formed of old timbers, branches of trees, with bark, &c. The floors are paved with pebbles, flints, and other substances. The various cloisters, pavilions, cots, obelisks and vases, inscribed with appropriate mottoes, and accompanied by numerous devices, are for the use of the supposed hermit. The singularity of this spot, the style in which it has been fitted up, and the attention manifested by its possessor, in preserving it in appropriate and pleasant order, conspire to attract the attention, and excite the admiration, of all persons who have an opportunity to view the scene.

Here was formerly another church named *St. Mary's*, which probably belonged to the guild of the blessed virgin; the bells of this church having been valued at the dissolution. It is now totally demolished, but the church-yard is the present place of sepulture for the town; as that of St. James's has not been used for the purpose

for

for nearly forty years past. Besides the church, there are three places of religious worship at Louth for dissenters from the establishment: one for catholics, one for baptists, and another for methodists. When the warden and six assistants were incorporated by Edward the Sixth, in the same charter two weekly markets were granted, one on Wednesdays, and the other on Saturdays, and three annual fairs. The latter were to be held on the third Sunday after Easter, on St. James's day, and the feast of St. Martin; with a particular injunction, that they should continue two whole days after; that the first day of each fair might be appropriated "*to hearing the word of God.*" Queen Elizabeth, in the sixth year of her reign, gave by charter to the corporation the manor of Louth, of which the annual value then was 78l. 14s. 4½d. for the better support of the corporate dignity. King James, in the third year of his reign, constituted the warden and one of the assistants justices of the peace, with an exempt jurisdiction not extending to life and limb; and authority to appoint other proper officers. In the fifth year of the same reign, by another charter, they were empowered to appoint a deputy warden, raise taxes for the good government of the town, and make other bye laws.

The *town-hall* is an old plain building, standing at the end of the principal street leading to the market place. By dividing a part of the street into two narrow lanes, it becomes offensive to the eye and a nuisance to the inhabitants.

The *Assembly-room*, commonly called the mansion-house, with a card-room annexed, forms a suite of elegant apartments, which are fitted up in the Grecian style, with considerable taste.

The *Theatre* is a small but neat building, erected by Mr. Edward Blyth, merchant; to whose public spirit Louth is indebted for several handsome buildings and liberal institutions.

A few years ago a *Carpet* and *Blanket Manufactory* was established here, and is now in a flourishing state. This trade, if it were extended to other towns, would be highly beneficial to Lincolnshire, as it would greatly contribute towards the con-



consumption of coarse wool, the staple commodity of the county. There is also a large manufactory of soap, and a mill for making coarse paper.

An act was obtained in 1761 for cutting a *canal* between Louth and the North Sea. It commences about half a mile from the town, and keeps parallel with the banks of the *Ludd*, which supplies it with water. It leaves the river about four miles from the town, and, by a sweep to the north, joins the sea at a place called *Tetney Lock*. The undertaking cost 12,000*l*. and the concern now pays very good interest. By this channel vessels of considerable burden regularly trade to several parts of Yorkshire, to Hull, and to London: carrying out quantities of corn and wool, and bringing in return, timber, coals, groceries, &c. Hence it has proved highly advantageous to the town and neighbourhood.

The open or common fields of Louth were inclosed by an act of Parliament in 1801. The number of inhabitants appears, by the return under the population act, to be 4,236, and the number of houses 950; but the former have been much increased since that return was made.

In Louth and its vicinity are some geological circumstances well worthy of minute investigation by the philosopher as well as chemist. *Aswell spring* turns a fulling mill only two hundred yards from the source of the stream. *St. Helen's Well* once supplied Louth park Abbey by means of a cut called *Monk's Dyke*. At the foot of the northern hills, several springs issue of a very peculiar nature. *They run rapidly during the summer, but in winter are generally dry*. The method of obtaining water by *overflowing springs* has been of the utmost utility to the lower part of the town, as well as to a great extent of fine marsh-land; which, till this discovery, made a few years since, possessed little else but stagnant water, retained in the adjacent ditches. A stratum of clay, about twenty-seven yards deep, runs in a sloping direction from the wolds to the sea, and extends several miles to the north and south. Beneath this is a stratum of gravel, which forms a grand reservoir of water. The argillaceous stratum being perforated,

forated, and a cavity of three or more inches diameter made, a current rushes up to the surface, down which cavity a tube of tin or copper is then slid, and a perpetual fountain, of inexpressible value formed, at a very inconsiderable expence. These fountains are become general along this part of the coast, and furnish an ample supply of water for an extent of thirty miles in length and ten in breadth; and were it necessary, might be obtained upon the sea shore, as far as low water mark.

About one mile from the town is the site of *Louth Park Abbey*\*, which was built by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, in the year 1139. It was appropriated to Cistercian Monks, who were brought from Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire. In the time of Henry the Third, it is related that this house contained sixty-six monks, and 150 *Conversi* †. At the time of the suppression here were only twelve religious persons, and its annual revenues were then valued, according to Dugdale, at 147l. 14s. 6d.

BURWELL, which was once a market town, has a large handsome church with a good tower. A few vestiges of a religious house still remain, which was a priory and cell to St. Mary's *Sylvæ majoris*, and was founded by John de Hay; who endowed it with various lands; from whom was descended Gilbert de Umphraville, Earl of Angus, who lived at Burwell, and had the appointment of the prior, by a claim derived from his ancestor. Near the village is

BURWELL PARK, the seat of *Mathew Bancroft Lister, Esq.*

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who

\* From the circumstance of its being built in a park, it usually went by the name of the Monastery *De Parcolude*. Its manuscript minutes are often quoted by Bishop Tanner, in his *Notitia Monastica*, to ascertain the dates of other similar establishments.

† The *Conversi*, in Monasteries, were persons retained to perform all kinds of laborious business in the Abbies and Granges. They were made from *novices*, and learning being expressly forbidden them, they could never become *Monks*. Harleian MSS. 63. B. 10.



who is sole proprietor of the parish. The house is a handsome modern mansion, built about the year 1760, by the father of the present possessor. It is delightfully situated in a well wooded park, which contains about three hundred acres, and is well stocked with deer. SARAH, wife of the celebrated Duke of MARLBOROUGH, who, by the ascendancy she obtained over Queen Anne, is supposed to have had a considerable share of influence in the politics of the day, was born here when the house was occupied by Mathew Lister, Esq. descendent of Sir Mathew Lister. In the vicinity of Burwell is

HAUGHAM, remarkable for a hill called *Skirbeck*, out of the side of which occasionally rushes a torrent of water sufficient to fill a tube of thirty inches in diameter. The stream continues to run for several weeks together from a place, where, at other times, there is not the smallest appearance of a spring. This sudden irruption is observed generally to happen after long and heavy rains, and is a phenomenon not common, but in very mountainous countries.

On a hill near TATHWELL, where is a large mansion belonging to Charles Chaplin, Esq. are six oblong *Barrows*, lying in a line from east to west.

COCKRINGTON was anciently the head of the barony of Scotiney. From Sir Adrian Scrope, or Scroop, Knt. of this place, was descended *Adrian Scrope*, Esq. who was educated at Oxford, and became one of the loyal attendants to Charles the First at Edgehill, where he was severely wounded, and left among the dead; but being brought off by his son, was recovered by the immortal Dr. William Harvey; who, while the battle was at its height, was attending the Prince and Duke at a distant station. On the coronation of Charles the Second, A.D. 1661, Scrope was made Knight of the Bath. This person forms a fine contrast to one descended from another branch of the family confounded with him, who, Anthony Wood says, "was Adrian Scrope, Esq.

of

of Warmley in Oxfordshire; sometime a gentleman commoner of Hart Hall, and afterwards a noted puritan, which made him take up arms for the blessed cause in the beginning of the Presbyterian rebellion; in which being first a captain, he was at length a colonel in a regiment of horse. When King Charles I. was tried for his life by a pack of hell hounds, this person, Adrian Scrope, sat and was one of his judges in that dismal tragedy, and afterwards signed the bloody warrant for severing his head from his body\*." For this, after the restoration, he suffered execution, Oct. 19th, 1660. Sir Carr Scrope, the famous poet and satirist, in the time of Charles the Second, was son of Adrian Scrope the loyalist. Near this place, on the opposite side of the Lud, is

ALVINGHAM, famous only for a small monastery of Gilbertine Monks and Nuns, formed by Walter de Bec, whose sister became one of the first Nuns.

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WRAGGOE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Barkwith East, Barkwith West, Bennicorth, Biscathorpe, Brough cum Girsby, Haiton, Hatton, Kirmond le Mire, Langton, Ludford, Panton, Sixhills, Sotby, Willingham South. Apley, Bardney, Bullington, Fulnetby, Goltho, Holton le Bickering, Legsby, Lissington Rand, Snelland, Staifield, Stainton cum Newball, Torrington East, Torrington West, Topholme, Wick-enby, and Wragby.*

Near the head of the small river Bain, which empties itself into the Witham, is the village of LUDFORD, by which a roman vicinal road passes from Castor, in a direction southward, and another south-west from this place to Lincoln. Many coins have been dug up here, whence it is conjectured that this must have been a Roman station.



At SIXHILL, was a *Gilbertine Abbey*, founded in the time of King Stephen, by ——— de Grelle, an ancestor of Thomas de la Warre. In the time of King John the various endowments were confirmed to the Nuns and brethren of Sixhill. According to Speed its revenues were valued, at the dissolution, at 178l. 8s. 9d. per annum. In this religious house Edward the First confined Mary the wife of Cristopher Seton, and sister of Robert Bruce, King of Scotland, A. D. 1306\*. It was granted at the dissolution to Thomas Henneage, Esq. in whose family it still remains; and they have a Roman Catholic Chapel here for themselves and the accommodation of others of the same persuasion. The residence of the Henneages is at Hainton Hall, which is a very ancient and handsome seat. It stands low, and has been in the family ever since the time of Henry the Third. The present proprietor, *George Robert Henneage, Esq.* has made considerable improvements to his house by the addition of a new wing and by other alterations. The house contains some pictures, and several fine family portraits, particularly one of Sir Thomas Henneage, who was M. P. and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; in the time of Queen Elizabeth. The village of Hainton has a church with a steeple, which Mr. Gough forgot to include with that of Linwood, when he observed of the latter, "the church has a decent spire, the only one to be seen in the round of fifty-nine parishes hereabouts†."

GIRSBY, near *Brough*, is a seat of Thomas Lister, Esq. who has lately rebuilt the house, and is making various improvements in the pleasure grounds and adjacent lands.

#### WRAGBY,

Which is called a village in the *Magna Britannia*, and erroneously said to stand on the river Witham, is a small market town, situated

\* Hemingford, p. 224, Edit. Hearne.

† Gough's *Camden*, Vol. II. p. 267.

situated eleven miles to the eastward of Lincoln, at the junction of the turnpike roads leading from that city to Louth and Horn-castle. It anciently formed part of the barony of *Trusbut*, from the last male heir of which family it was conveyed to the Manners, Dukes of Rutland; whence by marriage it came to George Villiers Duke of Buckingham, who obtained for the place a charter from Charles the Second, to hold a weekly market on Thursdays, and two annual fairs, which are now well frequented. Of the duke, in the year 1674, it was purchased by Sir Edmund Turnor, of *Stoke Rochford*, who erected and endowed here an almshouse for six clergymen's widows, and six other poor destitute persons. The chapel of this charity was consecrated by Bishop Gardiner, July 18th, 1697. Here is a *free-school* endowed with thirty pounds per annum for the master. It was founded in the year 1633, by William Hansard, Esq. The manor is possessed by Edmund Turnor, Esq. who has a seat in the parish of *Panton*, east of Wragby, called

**PANTON HOUSE**, which was built by Hawksmoor, a pupil of Sir John Vanbrugh's, in the year 1724. Since that time considerable additions have been made to it, from designs of Mr. Carr, architect at York, and the adjacent country has been greatly improved by ornamental plantations. Among some portraits in the house is one of Sir *Robert Cecil*, K. G. Earl of Salisbury, by Zuccherro, and one of Sir *Cristopher Turnor*, a baron of the Exchequer, by Lely. Two miles north of Wragby is

**HALTON LODGE**, a seat of the late Colonel Caldicot, in whose family the village of *Halton* has been vested for several generations.

At **GOLTHO** are the remains of **GOLTHO HALL**, which was formerly the residence of the Grantham family; and at **BULLINGTON** are some vestiges of a *Priory*, which was founded by Simon Fitzwilliam, but has not been mentioned by Speed or Tanner. In the southern



southern corner of the Wapentake are the ruins of the once large and celebrated Abbey of

**BARDNEY**, which was situated in a marsh on the north banks of the Witham. It was founded in the time of the Saxons, before the year 647; to which Ethelred, King of Mercia, was a great benefactor. Resigning his crown, he turned monk, and was appointed the chief of this monastery. It is said to have had three hundred monks. Bede says that King Oswald was buried here, and had a rich banner of gold and purple placed over his tomb. But the remains of that king, except his right hand, were removed by his niece, Queen Ostrith, to the church of Gloucester, A. D. 909. The hand was retained by the monks as a relique, to which they attributed a miraculous power, with the view of drawing to their house superstitious pilgrims. To sanction the imposture, for deception and falsehood are inseparable, they pretended it was incorruptible, and had remained sound for centuries. The monastery being burnt by the Danes, A. D. 870, Petrus Blesensis observes, it was rebuilt by Gilbert de Gaunt, "the noble and devout Earl of Lincoln," who bountifully annexed to it, besides other valuable possessions, the tythes of the whole of his extensive estates. William of Malmsbury attributes the restoration to Bishop Remigius, who filled it with Benedictine Monks, to the honour of St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Oswald, King and Martyr. Its annual revenues, at the dissolution, were valued, according to Speed, at 429l. 7s.

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**GARTREE WAPENTAKE** contains the parishes of *Asterby, Baumber, Belshford, Cawkwell, Donington, Edlington, Goldsby, Hemingby, Ranby, Scamlesby, Stainton Market, Stenniget, Sturton. Bucknall, Dalderby, Gantby, Horsington, Kirby Super Baine, Kirkstead, Langton, Martin, Mfinting, Scrivelsby, Stirwoud, Tattershall, Tattershall-Thorpe, Thornton Tumbly, Waddingworth, Wispington, and Woodhall.*

SCRIVELSBY

SCRIVELSBY was anciently a place belonging to the Marmions\*, from whom, by marriage, it came through the Ludlows into the family of the *Dymocks*. This manor was held by barony and grand serjeantry, viz. at the time of the coronation of a king, the lord of this manor, or, if he should be unable to attend, he was to provide a substitute, "well armed for war, upon a good war horse, into the presence of our lord the king; and shall then and there cause it to be proclaimed, That if any one shall say, that our lord the king has not a right to his crown and kingdom, he will be ready and prepared to defend, with his body, the right of the king and kingdom against him, and all others whatsoever." This manor came into the family of Dymock in the reign of Richard the Second, since which time the descendants have been hereditary champions of England. Leland says, "Dymokes dwelleth at Scrivelsby, two miles from Horncastle." The house was plain and antique, and in the hall were all the champions of England, and the kings, in whose reigns they lived, with three suits of armour. This part of the house having been burnt down, has never been rebuilt. In the church are brasses for Sir Robert Dymoke, Knt. and Bart. and a bust of Lewis Dymoke, who died in 1760, aged 91; and who was champion to Kings George the First and Second.

At WYNGALL, in South Kelsey, was an *Alien Priory*, or cell subordinate to the Abbey of Sees in Normandy; and at this village, in the mansion of her father, Sir William Askew, was born *Anne Askew*, who, according to Fuller, "went to heaven in a chariot of fire."

At

\* One of this family is the hero of an interesting modern poem, by Walter Scott, entitled, "*Marmion; a Tale of Flodden Field*." Lord Marmion, the fictitious hero of this poem, was an English knight of great rank and fortune in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. In Mr. Scott's work are some genealogical anecdotes of the families of Marmion and Dymock.



At KIRKSTEAD, on the banks of the Witham, once stood a CISTERCIAN ABBEY, which was founded A. D. 1139, by *Hugh Fitz Eude*, second Lord of Tattershall, in the immediate vicinity. It was valued at the dissolution at 286l. 2s. 7d. annually; only a small part of a corner building, perhaps a tower, is left standing. The village of *Kirkstead* gave birth to that famous monk HUGH KIRKSTEAD, whom Fuller styles, "a *Benedictine-Cistercian-Bernadine Monk*, or, as it may be termed, a treble refined Christian." For as a Benedictine monk was esteemed superior to a common Christian, so a Cistercian was considered purer than a Benedictine, and a Bernadine still more so than a Cistercian. So that this holy man must have formed the upper link in the chain of piety, or been at the very summit of monastic sanctity. He and *Serlo*, one of his own order, joining together, composed a Chronicle of the Cistercians, from their first arrival in England, A. D. 1131; when Walter de Espoke, founded their first abbey at Rivaux, in Yorkshire, down to their own time, about A. D. 1210. The church at Kirkstead, is small and neat, originally the chapel of the monastery "was thatched." The living is a donative, *extra episcopale*, and formerly was served by ministers of the established church; but, in the latter end of the seventeenth century, Mr. Disney, in whose gift it was, being a Dissenter, gave it to a minister of his own persuasion; and left a further endowment of thirty pounds per annum, in the hands of dissenting trustees, to be paid to the person whom they should recommend to do the duty. The celebrated Dr. John Taylor, of Norwich, held it from about the year 1715, for eighteen years; and at this place composed his justly valued "Hebrew Concordance," in two volumes, folio. It has ever since been held by other protestant dissenting ministers, who, Mr. Gough says, "*bury by the established forms.*"

On an extensive marsh, about two miles from Kirkstead, stands what is called the *Tower of Moor*, or the *Moor-Tower*. It is a single octangular brick building, of a considerable height, with a winding staircase. Part of this is worn away, and the lower part  
of

of the tower, on its south side, is in a ruinous condition. Various conjectures have been made, as to the age and intent of the building. There cannot be a doubt, that it was an advanced redoubt, or watch-tower, to Tattershall Castle, from which it is distant only four miles; and from the perfectly level country between, is completely seen from that important fortress.

#### TATTERSHALL,

Is a small market-town, situated on the river Bain, just before it joins the Witham. In the time of King William the Conqueror this place formed part of the possessions, which he granted to *Eudo*, one of his Norman followers, a descendant of whom built a stately castle here. The Fitz Eudos were barons of parliament; and, from the place, assumed the name of *Tattershall*. Robert Fitz *Eudo* obtained a grant from King *Jolm*, by presenting that monarch with a well-trained *Goshawk*, for the inhabitants of this town to have the privilege of holding a market weekly on Fridays: and his son, in the time of Edward the Third, received the royal licence to erect a castle within his manor of Tattershall. But the present fortress was built by Sir *Ralph Cromwell*, who was made, by King Henry the Sixth, in A. D. 1433, Treasurer of the Exchequer. He died A. D. 1455. Henry the Seventh, in A. D. 1487, granted the castle and manor to Margaret Countess of Richmond, and the following year entailed them on the Duke of Richmond; who dying without issue, they were, by Henry the Eighth, granted by letters patent, in 1520, to the Duke of Suffolk. This grant was confirmed by Edward the Sixth, in 1547. Four years afterwards they were passed in fee, by the same monarch, to Edward Lord Clinton, afterwards Earl of Lincoln. Of this family, Edward and Francis died at Tattershall, about the year 1693. By marriage with an heiress of the Clintons, it is now in the possession of Lord Fortesque. The *Castle* stands on a level moor, and is surrounded by two great fosses, the outer one formed of earth, and the inner one faced with brick, ten feet deep. This is occasionally filled with water from  
the



the river. It was intended originally as a place of defence, and was progressively raised to great height and extent. In the civil wars it was however dilapidated. Till very lately, the principal gateway was remaining; the part at present left standing, is a square tower of brick, flanked by four octangular embattled turrets, which are crowned with spires, covered with lead. It is above two hundred feet in height, and divided into four stories. The main walls were carried to the top of the fourth story, where a capacious machicolation enclosed the tower, on which there is a parapet wall of great thickness, with arches. This was to protect the persons employed over the machicolations. Upon these arches is a second platform and parapet, containing embrasures; above which the spired turrets rise to a considerable height. The tower is constructed upon ponderous groined arches, which support the ground floor. In this there is a large open fire-place, adorned with sculptured foliage and emblematic devices; such as the treasury bags and shields of the Cromwell arms, with the motto, "*n'aime je droit*," &c. Similar ornaments are at Colyweston Hall, in Northamptonshire, which was a house begun by the treasurer, and afterwards finished by Margaret Countess of Richmond. On the second floor is another fire-place, decorated in a similar manner; and over these was a third story, with a flat roof. In the east wall are some narrow galleries, curiously arched, through which there were communications from the grand stairs, in the south east turret, to the principal apartments.

The church, built in the form of a cross, stands near the outer moat, and is a beautiful and spacious edifice. Few churches, perhaps, have suffered more dilapidations than this. It consisted of a nave, having five large arches on a side, and eight clerestory windows, placed in pairs; a transept, and a magnificent choir. The windows of the latter were glazed with beautiful stained glass, which was removed by a late Earl of Exeter to the chapel of Burleigh\*, on condition that he replaced it with plain

\* Mr. Gough says, "The late Mr. Banks, of Revesby, was employed by Lord Exeter to get the glass; the townspeople threatened to rise and obstruct

plain glass, which could have been done for the sum of forty pounds; but this being neglected, the inside has suffered greatly from the weather: although the walls, roof, and pavement, remain entire. The ruined screen and stalls of wood, richly carved, are almost rotten; behind it is a stone screen, in the niches of which have been painted figures of saints. The body of the church and transepts had their windows richly adorned with the legendary histories of St. Catherine, St. Guthlac, and other saints. "In one of the windows the Passion, in another Hell Torments, with divers creatures bound together with a chain; among them one with a crown, another with a mitre, the devil tormenting them, and below, "*Sic affliguntur penis qui prava sequuntur.*" The history of Hermogenes, that raised up the devils; and of St. Guthlac, the saint of the fens; and of Catherine, who cast them into the sea, that Harmogenes and Philetus raised; and the history of Cosdre, with his decollation\*." A few fine fragments remain at present in some of the windows of the transept, while others have been blocked up. Before the altar lay two rich brass figures of Ralph Lord Cromwell, who died in 1455, and of Margaret his wife, who died in 1453. This Ralph Cromwell, in the seventeenth year of King Henry the Sixth, obtained a licence to make the church of Tattershall collegiate, for seven priests, six secular clerks, and six choristers. It was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin, St. Peter, and St. John the Baptist and Evangelist. He also founded, near the church-yard, an hospital for thirteen poor men and women, for the good estate of King Henry the Sixth, and the said Sir Ralph, during life, and afterwards

struct him; but he was a day before them. The glass being taken down hastily, for fear of the parishioners, no plan for its re-arrangement could be observed. Part of it was put up in the chapel at Burleigh; part given to Lord Warwick, to ornament his castle; and part remains unpacked." *Sepulchral Monuments, Part II. p. 174.*

\* MS. of church notes before quoted, in the Harleian Collection.



wards for the health of their souls; and the souls of their parents, friends, and benefactors; but chiefly for the soul of Lady *Maud Cromwell*, sometime lady of Tattershall, his grandmother. The whole of the foundation was valued, in the twenty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, at 348l. 5s. 11d. per annum. The collegiate revenues were granted to Charles Duke of Suffolk. The hospital still remains, with a small endowment. The number of houses in this parish appears, by the returns made to parliament, to have been 101, and inhabitants 496.

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**HORNCASTLE SOKE** consists of the following parishes, *Ashby West, Coningsby, Haltham upon Bain, Horncastle, Marcham-le-Fen, Marcham on the Hill, Moorby, Boughton, Thimbleby, Toynton High, Toynton Low, Wilksby, and Wood-Enderby.*

#### HORNCASTLE,

A market-town, is situated upon an angular piece of land, formed by a small rivulet, named *Waring*, and the river *Bain*. The latter is navigable from the Witham to this place. The name of the town is derived from *horn*, or *kyrn*, in Saxon, signifying an angle or corner, and a castle or fortification. Traces of the latter are yet visible, and the whole formerly occupied an area of nearly twenty acres. The foundations shew that it was in the form of a parallelogram, and inclosed a great part of the present town. Numbers of Roman coins have been found here, and, in digging, several bodies have frequently been discovered. Lately there existed, near the river, one of these intricate circles called

*Julian's*

*Julian's Bower.* These circumstances, and its situation on a lingua, or tongue of land, induced Stukeley to consider it a Roman station; and to place here the *BANNOVALLUM* of the Geographer Ravennas. Camden observes, that anciently this castle was part of the estate of Adeliza de Candia, and was levelled to the ground in the reign of Stephen. Afterwards the manor became the Barony of Gerard de Rhodes. It was also a soke, containing thirteen lordships, of royal demesne; till King Richard the Second bestowed it on the Bishop of Carlisle, for his habitation and maintenance, when he was driven from his seat of Rose Castle by the Scots. But it appears, from other authorities, to have formed, at an earlier period, part of the possessions of that See; for in the *Court rolls* it is stated, that the bishop, in the seventeenth year of Henry the Third, fined for this manor in fee; but not to alienate without licence. It still belongs to the bishopric of Carlisle.

The town was incorporated in the time of Elizabeth, with privilege of holding a weekly market on Saturdays, and one annual fair on St. Lawrence's day. A considerable trade in leather is carried on here; the place being principally occupied by tanners. The returns, under the late act, make the number of houses 403, which are occupied by 2,015 inhabitants.

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HILL WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Ashby-Puerorum*, *Aswardby*, *Brinkhill*, *Claxby-Pluck-Acre*, *Enderby Bag*, *Fulletby*, *Greetham*, *Hagworthingham*, *Hammeringham*, *Harrington*, *Langton*, *Ormsby South*, *Oxcomb*, *Salmonby*, *Sausthorpe*, *Scrayfield*, *Somersby*, *Tetford*, *Walmsgate*, *Winceby*, and *Worldby*.

At BRINKHILL, in a strata of blue clay, are found numerous veins of a barren *marcasite*, which the people ignorantly suppose,



from its appearance, must contain gold. Under this impression, Mr. Gough says, "some of it was sent to London about forty years ago." Quantities of it may be seen, after rains, in a small rill, which runs through the place.

LANGTON, long the possession of the family of the Langtons, who derive their name from this parish, is famous for having been the birth-place of three distinguished characters. The first, *Stephen Langton* was created a cardinal, and promoted to the archbishopric of Canterbury by Pope Innocent the Third. This circumstance produced the rupture between that pontiff and King John, and led to the compulsive conduct of the barons, which so happily terminated in obtaining, for the people of England, that revered bulwark of their liberties, "*MAGNA CHARTA*." Dr. *William Langton*, President of Magdalene College, Oxford, in the time of James the First, was born here, and died in 1626; and the late *Bennett Langton*, Esq. whose name is associated with that of Dr. Johnson, both by epistolary and literary productions. The present Mr. Langton inhabits a good stone mansion, which was built about the time of Elizabeth, or in the early part of James the First's reign. The principal front faces the south, over the entrance of which appear the family arms. On a hill, at a small distance from the village, near the turnpike road, are three *barrows*, known by the name of the *Spellow Hills*, i. e. *Hills of the Slain*. They are probably Saxon, from the name, and are situated on a hill of chalk, of which they are composed; but the field being under a constant state of tillage, has tended to alter their original form.

In SOUTH ORMSBY are the remains of an ancient *encampment*, covering nearly three acres of ground. It is situated on the brow of a steep hill, which forms an oblique side. The other side is straight, and the ends square. Within the area are three small artificial mounts. Mr. Drake supposes this to have been a Roman

Roman work. Several Roman coins, chiefly of the Emperor Constantine, have been found in and near it. Embosomed in groves of fine timber, stands a seat of *C. B. Massingberd, Esq.*

**CALCEWORTH WAPENTAKE** contains the following parishes and hamlets:—*Aby with Greenfield, Anderby, Belleau, Calceby, Cawthorpe Little, Claythorpe hamlet, Cumberworth, Gayton, Hogsthorpe, Huttoft alias Hightoft, Legbourn, Haugh hamlet, Mablethorpe, Mumby cum Chapel, Reston South, Sutton, Swaby, Thedlethorpe All Saints, Thedlethorpe St. Helen's, Thoresby South, Tothill, Trusthorpe.*—*Alford, Beesby, Bilsby with Thurlby, Claxby, Farlsthorne, Hagheby with Hannah, Marlby le Marsh, Markby, Rigsby with Ailsby, Saleby with Thoresthorpe, Strubby, Ulceby with Forthington, Well with Mawthorpe, Willoughby, and Withern with Stain.*

#### ALFORD

Is a small town, having a market weekly on Tuesdays, and two fairs annually. Camden says it owes these privileges to Leo, Lord Welles, who obtained a grant for them of Henry the Sixth. But in the *Magna Britannia* it is asserted, that they were obtained by William Lord Welles, in the time of Edward the First. The town consists principally of one street, about a quarter of a mile in length, and is watered by a small rivulet. Leland thus describes its appearance in his time: "*Alford, 16 miles from Boston, a mean market, in Low Lindesey Marsh, thakkid and redid, and a brooke cometh by it*." The church is an insignificant building, and the chancel is at present *thatched*. There is

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a considerable

\* *Rin. V. VII. 50.*



a considerable grammar-school, the governors of which present to the vicarage of Salesby. The number of houses, stated under the population act, is 229, of inhabitants 1,040.

At BELLEAU, so called from the excellent springs of water which issue from a chalk hill\* in the vicinity, are the remains of what has been termed *The Abbey*, but are now considered those of a house belonging to the Earls of Lindsey. The ruins consist of two gateways, and part of a turret, which shew it to have been a place of considerable importance. Over one of the entrances is a grotesque head carved in stone. The walls are covered with ivy, and overtopped by lofty ash trees. After the termination of the civil war, this place was sequestered to that eccentric character *Sir Henry Vane*, who amused himself here on Sundays, in assembling and preaching to his country neighbours. It is now the property of Lord Gwydir, in right of his wife, Lady Willoughby de Eresby. The church of Belleau is of considerable antiquity, and Gough observes, that it "belonged to the neighbouring monastery of Ailby." For this he refers, however, to no authority, and no mention is made of such religious house, either in Dugdale or Tanner.

Near the village of WELL, adjacent to Alford, on a heath, are three curious *Celtic* barrows, which are contiguous to each other. In the year 1725 were found, contained in two fair urns, six hundred Roman coins. "The church," Mr. Gough says, "has been lately rebuilt in the form of an elegant Grecian temple."

At HAGNEBY, three miles and a half E. by N. of Alford, was an abbey of Premonstratensians, dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, and founded by *Herbert*, son of *Alardi de Orreby*, and  
Agnes

\* Near this place is one of the finest springs in the county, being sufficient to turn a large mill immediately at its source.

Agnes his wife, in the year 1175. At the suppression it contained nine canons, whose annual revenues were valued, according to Speed, at 98l. 7s. 4d.

THORESBY is a handsome seat of Mrs. Wood, relict of the late William Wood, Esq. who was proprietor of this lordship. The waters descending from a number of chalk hills in the vicinity here joining, form a rivulet, which, increased by the springs of Belleau, runs to *Witham*, whence it might be made, at a small expence, navigable to the sea, the fall from hence to *Saltfleet* being little more than five feet. *Maplethorpe* has a comfortable bathing house, resorted to, during the summer months, by families from Louth and other neighbouring places.

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CANDLESHOE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Addlethorpe*, *Burgh*, *Croft*, *Friskney*, *Ingoldmells*, *Northolme*, *Orby*, *Skegness*, *Wainfleet All Saints*, *Wainfleet St. Mary's*, *Winthorpe*.—*Ashby*, *Braytoft St. Peter and St. Paul*, *Candlesby*, *Dalby*, *Driby*, *Firsby*, *Gunby*, *Irby*, *Portney*, *Scremby*, *Skendleby*, *Steeping Magna*, *Satterby*, and *Welton in the Marsh*.

#### BURGH

Is a small town, situated on a knoll, or rising ground, in a marsh near the sea. According to Dr. Stukeley, here was once "a Roman castrum to guard the sea coasts, probably against the Saxon rovers. It is a piece of very high ground, partly natural, partly raised by Roman labour, overlooking the wide-extended marshes, perhaps in those times covered with salt water, at least in spring tides. There are two artificial *tumuli*, one very high, called *Cock-hill*. In St. Mary's church yard, now demolished, Roman coins have been found\*." Burgh has a small market weekly, on

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Thursday,

\* Itin. Curios. p. 27.



Thursday, and two annual fairs. It had formerly two churches, St. Mary's and St. Peter's; but the latter only remains, in which was a chantry, founded by John Holden. It consists of a nave, north and south aisles, with a fine embattled tower; the battlements not pierced, but ornamented with quatrefoils, a turret at each corner, and three others on each side. The angles of the tower are supported by double buttresses. A free school was founded in this town by one of the family of *Le Hunt*, but from neglect, it is at present become merely a sinecure. The population returns, made under the late act, render the number of houses 135, and of inhabitants 716.

"SKEGNESSE, sometyne a great haven town, was once wallid, having a castle; the old town clean consumed and eten by the sea. For old Skegnes is now buildid a poor new thing\*."

#### WAINFLEET

Is a market town, situated in a marsh, on a small creek, through which the river *Limb* flows into Boston Deep. This place, Dr. Stukeley affirms, was the *Vainona* mentioned by Ravennas; and whence he supposes the name evidently derived. "The ancient haven was near St. Thomas's church, now called *Northolm*; 'tis still very deep thereabouts, and appears to have been broad, being a pretty good river †." But by diverting the waters of the Fens more southerly, towards Boston, that place became the port town, in consequence of which the haven of Wainfleet was neglected. A road across the fen is still called *Salter's Road*, which Stukeley observes, was "probably the Roman road" between *Banovallum* and *Lindum*. Leland describes Wainfleet, in his time, as "a pretty market town, standing on a creke, near to the sea."

\* Leland's Itin. Vol. VII. 50.

† Itin. Curios. p. 27.

sea. To this town long small vessels. It hath been a very good town, and in it two churches. The school that Wainflete, Bishop of Winchester, made and endowed with 10*l.* land, is the most notable thing. The Shippelets in hominum memoria came up to the school. The haven now decayith\*." Probably the town, before the decay of the harbour, stood higher up the creek; for the church of All Saints stands at a place called *High Wainfleet*. This is a handsome building, though apparently not older than the time of Bishop Wainflete. It has a brick tower of modern date, and is going fast to decay. In the south aisle of the church an alabaster monument still exists, which was erected by the pious bishop, to the memory of his father.

Wainfleet St. Mary's, or *Low Wainfleet*, has nothing worthy of note. The *school-house*, founded in 1459, is yet standing, and has a handsome window, also two octagonal turrets. A nominal market is held on Saturday, and the haven affords security to vessels when driven on the coast, in tempestuous weather. The number of houses returned under the late act for taking an account of the population, was, in the parish of All Saints, 96, inhabited by 506 persons. In the parish of St. Mary 66, occupied by 421 inhabitants.

That great prelate, called WILLIAM OF WAINFLEET, from the place of his nativity, according to the custom of the times among the clergy, was the eldest son of *Richard Partin, Esq.* the descendant of an ancient family in this county. He was educated at Oxford, where, being admired for the greatness of his abilities and acquirements, he was quickly preferred, and rose to great eminence in ecclesiastical preferments. He was made Bishop of Winchester, and was the munificent founder of that noble college, St. Mary Magdalene's, in his own university.

**BOLINGBROKE SOKE** contains the following parishes:—  
East division; *Enderby Mavis, Halton Holegate, Hundley,*

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*Keal*

\* Itin. Vol. VII. 50 and 204.



*Keal East, Lusby, Raithby, Spilsby, Steeping Little, Thorpe, Toynton All Saints, Toynton St. Peter's.* West division; *Asgarby, Bolingbroke, Hagnaby, Hareby, Keal West, Kirkby East, Miningsby, Revesby, Sibsey, Stickford and Stickney.*

### BOLINGBROKE

Is a small town, having an annual fair, and a market weekly on Tuesdays, according to the *Magna Britannia*; though Leland says, it "hath once a year a fair, but hath no wekeley market\*." Yet it must have been formerly of consequence, by having given name to the *soke*. It contains, according to the returns made to parliament, 70 houses, and 283 inhabitants. A few ruins of its ancient castle still remain. It was situated in a bottom, where a stream rises and soon joins the Witham. This castle was built by William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln; and afterwards descending to the family of Lacy, it was taken, by King Edward the Second, from Alicia de Lacey, because she had married against his consent, and given by Edward the Third to John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. His son, afterward Henry the Fourth, was born here, from which circumstance he was called "Henry of Bolingbroke." And from that event the town was ranked amongst those royal manors called, by way of peculiar distinction, "*Honours*." This place gives the title of Viscount to the family of St. John of Lediard Tregose in Wiltshire.

### SPILSBY,

The chief town in the southern part of Lindsey division, is situated on an eminence, overlooking to the south a large track of marsh and fen land, which is bounded by Boston Deep and the German Ocean. The town consists of four streets, or lanes, uniting

at

\* Itin. Vol. VII. 52.

at the market-place, which forms a spacious square, intersected in the centre by a row of houses, with the market-cross at the east end, and the town-hall at the west end. The *market-cross* consists of a plain octagonal shaft, with a quadrangular base terminated with a modern fane: the whole elevated on five steps. The *town-hall* is a plain brick building, standing on arches. In 1763, the fabric being in a ruinous and unsafe state, was taken down, and the foundation of the present one laid in 1764, the subscriptions of the inhabitants and neighbourhood amounting to 163*l.* 11*s.* The general quarter sessions of the peace for the south division of the parts of Lindsey, have been holden at Spilsby for above a hundred years; on account, probably, of the situation being found more convenient for the inhabitants in the neighbourhood than Horncastle, where no sessions have been kept since the year 1749. In 1807 an attempt was made to transfer them to the latter place, which was opposed by petition from more than 500 persons resident in the south part of the division, who remonstrated strongly against the proposed measure, on the ground of incurring additional expences, and a serious loss of time; besides, that the great distance from Horncastle must necessarily discourage the apprehension of vagrants, as well as the prosecution for petty offences, and the prevention in general of more serious crimes.

Here is a small *free-school*, the salary of the master arising from the rent of certain tenements bequeathed for that purpose; and a *sunday-school*, which was established a few years ago, promises to be of great service to the poorer inhabitants. In 1779 the manor of Spilsby passed, by marriage, to the present Lord Gwydir, then Sir Peter Bunell, who married Lady Willoughby, a daughter of the late, and sister of the present, Duke of Ancaster.

The *church*, which is situated on the west side of the town, is an irregular building, consisting of north and south ailes, the latter of much larger extent than the rest of the church, at the end  
of



of which is placed the altar. A chapel, probably the former chancel, occupies the extremity of the body of the church, in which are some ancient monuments, belonging to the families of Beke, Willoughby, and Bertie, who were successively interred here. At the west end of the church is a handsome embattled tower, of a more modern date than the other parts of the structure, and probably erected about the time of Henry the Seventh. Tradition points out Spilsby to have formerly been a place of less note than at present, the market being removed hither from Partney; the church may be, therefore, reasonably supposed to have been enlarged at that time, and the families who were proprietors of the place, and resident at Eresby, to have occupied the original chancel as a place of burial for themselves and descendants.

"In the chancel is a brass figure of a lady in a mantle, boddice, and mittens; a rich head-dress, and two cushions under her head, with this inscription:

Hic jacet Margareta que fuit uxor Roberti de Wylughby  
D'ni de Eresby que obiit xvii die mensis Octobris an'o d'ni  
Mlmo ccc nonagesimo primo. cui aie p'picetur Deus\*."

Spilsby has a market on Monday, and three annual fairs. The return of its population, under the late act, was 932 persons, occupying 200 houses.

At ERESBY was formerly a mansion house, belonging to the Bekes and Willoughbys. "The Lord Willoughbie had a house at Heresby, and a park of black deer two miles from Spilsby, where, as I hear say, he intendeth to build sumptuously †." Some years since the house was burnt down, and has not been rebuilt.

At REVESBY was a Cistercian abbey, founded by *William de Romara*,

\* Gough's Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. Part II. 151.

† Leland's Itin. Vol. VII. 50.

*Romara*, Earl of Lincoln, William his son, and Handewisa his wife, in the year 1142. By them it was amply endowed with lands, and subsequently more enriched by numerous benefactions. It was dedicated to St. Lawrence; and its annual revenues, at the dissolution, were valued at 349l. 4s. 10d. The site was then granted to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. The charter of this monastery is preserved in Dugdale's Monasticon; and among a variety of particulars respecting exchanges of lands, manner of grants, and other matters, is this curious fact. It appears that to give greater solemnity to the ceremony of foundation, the Earl, on petition, manumitted, or set at liberty, several *slaves*. One of them was named *Wilhelmus Medicus*, a physician; another is called *Rogerus Barkarius*, who was probably a shepherd. The surnames of persons and families being, at that period, taken from profession or occupation. Till lately a family by the name of Barker resided in the neighbourhood. The Abbot's Lodge, which constituted part of an ancient mansion, now forms the offices belonging to a house built by Craven Howard, son of the Earl of Berkshire, but since considerably enlarged by the family of Banks. It is possessed by Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. who has laudably set an example to the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, by the numerous agricultural and other improvements he has made, or suggested, in the surrounding districts. The house stands upon an elevated spot, and commands a view over the east and west fens, which, in the summer months, display a vast tract of flat country. The grand system of drainage and inclosures, which is carrying into execution, will add greatly to the improvement of the prospect, and to the advantage of the situation.

Near Revesby is an *encampment*, with a broad foss, inclosing an area of land, which measures about 300 feet from east to west, and 100 from north to south. At each end is a large and lofty tumulus, about 100 feet in diameter, of similar form and position, having a space of 100 feet between. "It seems to have been a place of sepulture; perhaps two British Kings were there buried, and



and the height on the north side was the place whereon they sacrificed horses, and the like, to the manes of the deceased. Or is it a place of religious worship among the old Britons, and the two hills may possibly be the temples of the sun and moon? I am inclined to think it ancient, because of the measure. The breadth is equal to 100 celtic feet, as I call them, the length to 300 \*."

**HOLLAND DIVISION**, called by Ingulphus *Hoilandeæ*, constitutes the south-eastern side of the county, and is bounded by parts of Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire on the south, the division of Lindsey on the north, on the east by the English Channel, and on the west by part of Kesteven division. The area thus circumscribed is about thirty miles from north to south, twenty-three from east to west, and comprises nearly 278,400 square acres. It is divided into three wapentakes, which are subdivided into thirty-four parishes. These include four market towns, one township, and four hamlets.

Nearly the whole of this tract of country appears to have been, at a remote period, inundated by the sea; but the persevering and scientific exertions of man have expelled the briny tide, and nearly secured the fertile lands from the overwhelming waters of the ocean. The stagnant pools have been drained, by means of deep canals with sluices; and the boisterous sea repelled by high and strong embankments. Most of the drains of this district, or *dykes* as they are provincially termed, communicate with, and empty themselves into, the rivers Welland and Witham, the channels of which have been new cut, widened, and altered in various places.

Holland is divided into upper and lower, both of the divisions entirely consisting of fens and marshes, some in a state of nature, but others intersected by numberless drains and canals, and crossed by

\* Stukeley's Itin. Curios. p. 28.

by raised causeways, called droves. The lower, or southern division, is most watery, and is only preserved from constant inundations by vast mounds raised on the sea coast and on the banks of the rivers. The air of these tracts is generally unwholesome, and the water rather of a brackish nature; whence the inhabitants are obliged to make reservoirs of rain water. In summer vast swarms of insects fill the air, and prove a great nuisance to the inhabitants. Yet even here industry has produced comfort and opulence, by forming excellent pasture land out of the swamps and bogs, and even making them capable of yielding large crops of corn. The fens too, in their native state, are not without their utility, as they afford various objects of curiosity to the naturalist. The reeds with which the waters are covered make good thatch, and are annually harvested in great quantity for that purpose. Prodigious flocks of geese are bred among the undrained fens, forming a considerable object of commerce, as well for their quills and feathers, as for the birds, which are driven in great numbers to the London markets. The principal decoys in England for wild-ducks, teal, widgeon, and other fowls of the duck kind, are in these parts, and afford the chief supplies to the metropolis. Wild-geese, grebes, godwits, whimbrels, coots, ruffs and reeves, and a great variety of other species of water-fowl, breed here in amazing numbers, and obtain plentiful food from the fishy pools and streams.

Near Spalding is the greatest *herony* in England, and another at Surfleet, where the herons build together like rooks on high trees. The avoset, or yelper, distinguished by its bill, which bends upwards, is found in great numbers about Fossdike Wash; as also those delicate birds, the knots and dottrells. Great quantities of these wild-fowl are caught by means of

DECOYS, which are more numerous in this county than in any other part of England. These are generally formed by pools, surrounded by wood, and branching off from them are small canals, or ditches, called *pipes*. At the time of catching the fowls, these are covered over by nets, which rest on hoops, and

are



are terminated by a drawing net. Into these the wild fowl are enticed by various devices; but the usual mode is by means of a *decoy duck*, i. e. one that has been trained up for the purpose. This is taught to obey the whistle of the decoy man, who tempts it to swim up the trapping funnel, when he sees a number of wild birds. These follow the tame one; and when they have all entered the channel, are inclosed, and taken by the net. In all cases, however, the tame duck does not succeed in trepanning the others, when the decoy man employs a small dog, which by swimming about among the rushes and reeds, close to the mouth of the mark, attracts the wild fowl. The general season for catching these is from the end of October till February. An act of parliament passed in the tenth year of George the Second, forbids the taking of them from June the 1st till October the 1st, under a penalty of five shillings for every bird so illegally caught. The decoys of Lincoln supply the London market with wild fowl, and the number annually taken is almost incredible. Ten decoys in the west fen, it is stated, during one winter, furnished the enormous number of 31,200.

The subdivisions of Holland are the wapentakes of Skirbeck, Kirton, and Elloe.

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SKIRBECK WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Bennington*, *Boston*, *Butterwick*, *Fishtoft*, *Freiston*, *Leak*, *Leverton*, *Skirbeck*, and *Wrangle*.

#### BOSTON,

The chief town in the division of Holland for population and trade, is situated on the river Witham, or, as named by *Leland*, *Lindis*, about five miles from its mouth, and thirty south-east of Lincoln. The parish is about two miles in length and one in breadth;

breadth; and the town occupies about half of that extent. It is a market and borough town, incorporated as early as the fifth year of King John's reign, and sent members to the national council in the time of King Edward the Second. In succeeding reigns, by new charters, it obtained many privileges and immunities. In a charter dated the thirty-seventh year of Henry the Eighth, it was declared a borough, to be governed by a corporation, consisting of a mayor, twelve aldermen, and eighteen common council men, or burgesses; a recorder, town clerk, six constables, a coroner, two serjeants at mace, and a clerk of the market. The mayor and burgesses to be a body corporate, and to implead, or to be impleaded, by the name of, "The Mayor and Burgesses of Boston, in the county of Lincoln," with privilege to hold two markets weekly, on Wednesday and Saturday; and two fairs annually, on the feast of St. George, and the feast of St. James; and during the same, to hold courts of *pie poudre*. By a charter dated in the time of Elizabeth, the mayor and burgesses were empowered to hold a court of admiralty, for the port and creeks of Boston; and in the reign of James the First still farther privileges were granted.

In early history little is found respecting this place; though from its situation, it probably obtained very early notice. Stukeley says that the Romans built a fort at the entrance of the Witham, and had a ferry over the river at *Redstone Gowt*, about a furlong distance from the south entrance of the present town; and that an old Roman foundation was dug up here, with an urn, containing ashes, a small pot with an ear to it, an iron key, and an urn lined "with lead, full of red earth and bones, unquestionably Roman."

In the early part of the reign of Edward the Second, a *staple*\* was established at Boston, for wool, leather, tin, lead, and

\* Leland says, "the staple and stiliard houses yet remain." In the bite of the river, a building stands, which goes by the name of the *Stilyard*. This



and other mercantile articles. By the roll of the "high fleet" of Edward the Third, Boston appears to have been then a considerable place; for it furnished a quota of *sixteen ships* to the "maritime militia." Subsequent to that the town gradually declined in the commercial scale; and about fifty years ago it sunk so low, as nearly to lose the whole of its trade, owing to the navigation of the Witham being choaked with *silt*. The *barges*, or flat vessels, which required only a small draught of water, could then reach the quays only at high spring tides. But on cutting a new channel from the town to Dogdyke, an extent of twelve miles, the river was again rendered navigable. The Holland fens being inclosed about forty years since, the produce of 22,000 acres of rich cultivated land came to the market; and these occasioned an increase of shipping from five or six, to seventy or eighty vessels, exclusive of other small craft. And the inclosure and draining of *Wildmore*, with the *east* and *west fens*, which consist of about 41,000 acres, now carrying into effect, together with the improvement of the port under the direction of Mr. Rennie, will be greatly conducive to the wealth and population of the place. The foreign trade is principally to the north of Europe, and consists of imports of deals, battens, barks, hemp, iron, linen, &c. Its export trade is chiefly coasting, and consists of corn and other provisions, with an occasional back freight of coals from Sunderland and Newcastle. Of late quantities of coals from Sunderland have been brought down the Trent and Witham. Formerly Boston had several religious houses, among which was St. Botolph's priory, founded, according to Leland, by St. Botolph, in the time of the Saxons, whence the town derived both its origin and its name. Besides which there was a priory near the sea, dedicated to St. Mary; four friaries of austin, black, grey, and white friars; and three colleges, dedicated to St. Mary, Corpus

This was probably the site of the ancient custom-house, where, while the staple privileges remained, the commodities were weighed, by means of a large steelyard, or weighing machine.

Corpus Christi, and St. Peter. The chief object of curiosity and beauty in the town is the CHURCH, which is a large, elegant, and interesting pile of architecture; at once an honour to the taste and science of our ancient artists, and to the religious zeal of the people. At what time it was built is not ascertained. Stukeley says, that the first stone was laid by dame *Margery Tilney*, in the year 1309; and "that she put five pounds upon it, as did Sir John Twesdale, the vicar, and Richard Stevenson, a like sum; and that these were the greatest sums at that time given\*." It is dedicated to St. Botolph, the tutelary saint of mariners, and is supposed to be the largest church, without cross ailes, in the kingdom. The nave is extremely lofty and grand; and the ceiling, representing a stone vaulting, is said to be of Irish oak. It consists of fourteen groined arches, with light spandrils, which, by their elegant curves, intersections, and embossments, produce a beautiful effect. The upper part of the nave is lighted by twenty-eight clerestory windows, between the springs of the arches. Beneath these, and on each side of the nave, is an aisle, the roofs of which were formerly lined with flat ceilings, divided into a great number of compartments, each ornamented with historic painting; but these becoming impaired, were replaced by ceilings, in some degree corresponding with that of the nave. The latter is divided by an open screen into two unequal parts; that on the west side, being about one-third, forms a noble area; that on the east, containing the other two-thirds, is used for the performance of divine worship. The chancel, which is spacious and lofty, has on each side ranges of stalls, the seats of which are ornamented with grotesque carvings, and over these formerly were canopies, highly embellished with foliage and fret work. The altar is of oak, in the Corinthian order, which, though beautiful, must disgust the eye of taste, as not being in unison with the style of the building. It is enriched by a copy of Rubens' celebrated picture, "The taking

VOL. IX.

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down

\* Itin. Curios.



down from the Cross," executed by P. Mequignon, and was the gift of Richard Smith, Esq. It is a received opinion, that the TOWER was built after the model of that belonging to the great church of Antwerp; and comparing it with the print of that structure, drawn and engraved by Hollar, there is evidently a great similarity. It is peculiarly handsome, and measures 282 feet in height. The shape and altitude of this part of the structure, with the extreme richness of the tracery, windows, buttresses, pinnacles, lantern, &c. conspire to render it an object of general attraction and admiration. It may, perhaps, without depreciating other similar edifices, be pronounced the most elegant tower in England. It is divided into four stories, exclusive of an ornamented basement. In the lower tier are three large windows, full of mullions and tracery. In the next story there are two windows on each front, with ogee canopies: and above these is the third story, having one large window in each front. This division is crowned with a parapet, embattled wall, and an octangular lantern, which has a window in each face, and is connected with the corner pinnacles by flying buttresses\*. The length of the church, from the western door in the tower to the east wall in the chancel, is two hundred and ninety feet, and the breadth of the nave and ailes ninety-nine feet.

Besides the church, Boston contains a meeting house for the sect called Independents, a general Baptist chapel, a Calvinistic Baptist chapel, an Arminian Methodistic chapel, and another chapel for a sect who style themselves *Universalists*.

Among the charitable foundations in this town, is the free *grammar school*, which was first endowed by a grant, dated 17th of January, 1554, of lands in the time of Queen Mary; but, as appears by an inscription over the entrance, the school was not erected till the ninth year of Elizabeth,

*A charity*

\* A view of this very elegant tower, with a particular description, and some architectural details, will be given in the third volume of the *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*.

A *charity school* was founded by a Mr. Laughton, for twenty-five boys, who are to be sons of free burgesses, and are admissible at the age of seven years. They remain till they arrive at fourteen, when each boy, as he goes off the foundation, is entitled to receive ten pounds as a premium to put him apprentice, provided he be bound to a free burgess.

The *blue-coat school*, established about the year 1713, is supported chiefly by subscription, and admits thirty boys, to be taught reading, writing, and arithmetic; and twenty girls, who are instructed in reading, knitting, and plain work.

In the year 1795, a *general dispensary* was instituted, which has been laudably supported by subscription; and from which the poor of the town and neighbourhood have received very considerable benefit.

A permanent *library* was established in 1799, which, with various reading societies, evince, that the inhabitants of Boston have a taste for literature, and that, amidst other pleasures, they do not neglect those which arise from the cultivation of the mind.

A *theatre*, on a large scale, was erected, and fitted up in the modern style, in the year 1806.

But among the greatest improvements which have been made in this town may be ranked that of deepening the channel of the river, and enlarging the harbour, which have been effected from the designs of the scientific engineer, Mr. Rennie. Part of the plan which has been put in execution, is the erection of an *iron bridge*. It consists of a single arch, the small segment of a large circle, eighty-six feet in the span; and the breadth, including the cornice on each side, is thirty-nine feet. A circumstance observable in this bridge, and which is a striking feature in all Mr. Rennie's structures of this kind is, the placing the abutments so deep and low, as to relieve the convexity of the arch. So that instead of the artificial and inconvenient hills which bridges usually occasion in the road, the passage is, by this means, permitted to keep an horizontal direction. The expence was defrayed by the corpora-



tion of Boston; and which, including the purchase-money of buildings, &c. amounted to nearly the sum of 22,000*l*. It was made passable for carriages, May 2d, 1807.

Boston, like most other places in marshy situations near the sea, experiences a deficiency of good water, as that from the wells is generally brackish. This is found to be the case after boring to a great depth. There are, however, a few private wells, or reservoirs, and one public pump, which furnishes tolerably good water. The cavity with which the latter communicates, consists of two large ancient vaulted rooms, built of brick.

JOHN FOX, the *martyrologist*, whose fame, through his works, has stood the ordeal of ages, and who occasioned much contention among the papists and protestants, was a native of Boston. He was educated at Oxford, and became fellow of Magdalen college; but refusing to conform to the motley religion set up by King Henry the Eighth, after he had renounced the pope's supremacy, he was appointed tutor to the Duke of Norfolk's family, and preached the gospel at Ryegate. To save him from the persecution of the sanguinary *Gardiner*, Bishop of Winchester, the duke sent him into Germany. In the time of Edward the Sixth he returned, and resumed his function at Ryegate. Queen Mary soon afterwards ascending the throne, he was again obliged to fly; on which occasion he went to his friend *Operinus*, printer at Basil, whom he had formerly assisted, and there first published his Latin edition of "The Book of Martyrs." On Queen Elizabeth's coming to the crown, Fox returned again to England; was well received by the Duke of Norfolk, and, through his patronage, became minister of Ryegate, and prebendary of Shipton, in the diocese of Salisbury.

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KIRTON WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Algarkirk*, *Bickor*, *Brothertoft*, *Donington*, *Fosdyke*, *Frampton*, *Gosberton*, *Kirton Quadring*, *Skirbeck Quarter*, *Surfleet*, *Sutterton*, *Swinehead*,

*Swineshead, Wigtoft, and Wyberton, with the two extraparochial places of North Forty Foot Bank and Wastlands.*

### DONINGTON, OR DONNINGTON,

Is a small town, which has a weekly market on Saturday, and two fairs annually. A new road, called *Bridgend Causeway*, has lately been made across the fens, from this town to Fellingham, which has greatly contributed to the convenience of the neighbourhood during winter, as the road, previous to this improvement, was almost impassable in that season. A free school was erected and endowed here in A. D. 1718, by Thomas Cowley, Esq. who left all his estates to be divided among, and applied to the use of, the poor of every parish in which they respectively lay, and for other beneficent uses; of which 400*l.* per annum came to the poor of Donington. This place is noted for the sale of hemp and hemp seed. The number of houses appears, by the returns made to government in 1801, to have been 216, of inhabitants 1,321.

In digging for foundations behind the school-house, was discovered a vault, four feet square, built of hewn stone, containing an urn filled with red earth. And amid the ruins of some ancient buildings, a few glazed earthen vessels, specimens, it is supposed, of ancient pottery made at Bolingbroke, were found.

ALGARKIRK has a handsome church. In the church-yard is an image of stone, said to be the statue of Algar, Earl of Mercia, who, with his gallant stewards, Wybert and Leofric, so valiantly opposed the incursions of the Danes, over whom, near this place, he obtained a decisive victory, A. D. 870, but paid for it with his life the following day.

### SWINEHEAD, OR SWINESHEAD,

Is a small market town, containing, as stated by the returns made to parliament, 290 houses, and 1,544 inhabitants. It is



famous for having been the first resting place of King John, after he lost the whole of his baggage, and narrowly escaped with his life, when crossing the marshes, in his military progress from Lynn to Sleaford, the castle of which latter place was then in his possession. He left this town on horseback, but being taken ill with a dysentery, was moved in a litter to Sleaford, and thence to his castle of Newark, where he died on the following day. Matthew Paris, and other historians, ascribe the king's death to a fever, which was brought on by vexation, and heightened by imprudently eating peaches, and drinking new cyder. But an author who lived about a century after the event, asserts, that the king died in consequence of poison, administered to him by a monk of a religious house which then existed at Swinehead\*. This was an *abbey* of cistercian monks, founded by Robert Greslei, A. D. 1134, and valued at the dissolution, according to Dugdale, at 167l. 15s. 3d. per annum. Gilbert de Holland, Abbot of Swinehead, was cotemporary with, and a particular friend of, *St. Bernard*. He wrote the life of that saint, and died and was buried at Thoulouse, in the year 1280.

Of the abbey buildings no vestiges are left; but a mansion was erected out of the ruins by one of the family of Lockton. In the church, a handsome spacious building, with a lofty chancel, is a monument of *Sir John Lockton*, who died A. D. 1610.

In the parish of *Surfleet*, is *CRESSEY HALL*, the property of Mr. Heron, a descendent of Sir John Heron, Knight, who was privy counsellor to Henry the Seventh, whose mother was here once sumptuously entertained by Sir John; and the state-bedstead on which she lay is described by Stukeley to be made of curiously embossed oak. It is preserved in a farmer's house in the neighbourhood. The house was handsomely rebuilt by Sir Henry Heron, Knight of the Bath, who died in 1695, and lies buried in the church. This was once a private chapel, and appears to have

\* See this circumstance discussed by Mr. Pegge in *Archæologia*, Vol. IV. p. 29.

have been built about the year 1309, as an inscription over the door, respecting the licencing of the building, contains that date.

At this place is a vast *Heronry*, which has been, however, considerably reduced of late, on account of the damage the birds do to the lands. The herons resort here for the purpose of repairing their nests about February, and settle in the spring to breed. They are numerous and gregarious, and their nests so crowded together, that Mr. Pennant observes, that in Scotland he has seen eighty on one tree.

The Heron, or *Ardea Major* of Linnæus, is a voracious bird; and, according to Buffon, exhibits a picture of wretchedness, anxiety, and indigence. It subsists on fish, frogs, water newts, &c. and occasionally flies to a great distance in search of food. In England this bird was formerly ranked among the royal game, and protected, as partridges and hares are now, by specific laws. Persons who destroyed their eggs were subject to a fine of twenty shillings for each offence. Heron-hawking was at that time a favourite diversion among the nobility and gentry of the kingdom, and at whose table this bird was deemed a choice dish. A passage in Shakespeare that alludes to the heron, has occasioned much controversy with verbal critics. Allusive, and as a reproach, to ignorance, it states, "He does not know a *hawk* from a *handsaw*, or *heron-shaw*." The latter is the common name of the fowl; but, in vulgar pronunciation, it is often called in this proverb, handsaw. An interesting account of the heron, with an accurate representation of it, are preserved in Bewick's "History of British Birds," Vol. II.

KIRTON, or KIRKTOWN, is described as a market town in most topographical works; but though it formerly possessed a weekly market, and two annual fairs, it is mentioned in Howlet's Views as only "a large village." In 1800 it contained 269 houses, and 1,238 inhabitants. The patronage of the living, which is a discharged vicarage, including the chapelry of Brother-



toft, is vested in the Mercer's Company, of London. Kirton has been noted for its spacious and elegant church, which was formerly collegiate, and is said to have been built by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln; but its style of architecture displays a much later date. Being found much dilapidated and decayed, its chancel, tower, and transepts, were taken down in the year 1805. The tower was originally in the centre of the church, at the intersection of the transepts with the nave. When taken down, the stones were marked and numbered, and the whole have been employed in re-erecting a new tower at the western end of the church. The nave and aisles remain in their original state; and at the western end of the former is a semicircular arch, which is probably a part of Alexander's structure. Within the church is an handsome *font*, with eight faces, in each of which is a recessed panel, with a shield. On the pedestal is this inscription:—"Orate pro aia ALAUNI BURTON qui fontem istum fieri fec. A. D. M CCCC V."

ELLOE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes and hamlets of Cowbit, Croyland, Fleet, Gedney, Gedney Hill hamlet, Holbeach, Sutton, St. Nicholas hamlet, Moulton, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Sutton St. Edmund's hamlet, Sutton St. James's hamlet, Sutton St. Mary's, Tyd St. Mary's, Weston, Whapload, and Whapload Drove hamlet. The principal place in this district is

#### HOLBEACH,

An ancient market town, consisting of 556 houses, and 2,683 inhabitants. Among the ancient foundations of this place may be specified an hospital, which was endowed and established by Sir John de Kirton, Knight, about the year 1351. It was intended

tended to support a warden, chaplain, and fourteen poor pensioners. A free grammar-school was also founded here, by a licence from King Edward the Third, who granted certain lands for its support. Another free school was established here about the year 1669, by George Farmer, Esq. and the revenues for its support have been much increased by subsequent donations and bequests. In the market place was an ancient stone cross, supposed to have been raised about the year 1253; near which period Thomas de Malton, Lord Egremont, obtained the grant of a weekly market and an annual fair.

The chief building of Holbeach is the church, which is a large handsome structure; and consists of a nave, chancel, ailes, porch, and square tower. The latter is surmounted with an octangular ornamental spire. Each angle is charged with crockets, and each face has two windows, with canopies, &c. The north porch is rather curious, having two circular towers, with embattled parapets, at its extreme angles. Within the church are some fine monuments to the Irby family, and to the Littleburys, both of which formerly resided in this neighbourhood. Dr. Stukeley has given a plate, with some account of a fine altar monument, with a statue in armour of a person belonging to the latter family.

Holbeach has derived some eminence from two of its natives, one of whom was *Henry de Rands*, called, from the place of his birth, *Holbeck*. After passing through different ecclesiastical offices, he was advanced to the bishopric of Lincoln. See some account of him in p. 623. The other native of this town was *WILLIAM STUKELEY*, M. D. C. M. L. F. A. S. and F. R. S. whose name and memory are respected by every true lover of English antiquities; and whose literary disquisitions will be always considered curious, and therefore interesting, to a certain class of readers and amateurs of books. He was descended from an ancient family in this county, and was born here November 7th, 1687. After receiving the first rudiments of education under Mr. Edward Kelson, in the free school of this town, he was admitted



mitted of Bennet College, Cambridge, where he made medicine and botany his peculiar study. Taking a degree in physic, he removed to London in the year 1717, where, on the recommendation of his friend Dr. Mead, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and was one among the distinguished number who, about that time, revived the Society of Antiquaries. To the latter he acted for many years as secretary. He was also made a member of the College of Physicians, and became one of the censors. After residing in London a few years, he retired to Grantham, in Lincolnshire, at which place he married and settled. Afflicted with the gout during the winter, it was his custom to travel for his health in the spring or summer; and in these journeys he acquired a particular and zealous love of antiquities. This is manifested by the researches and observations which are contained in his valuable work, "*The Itinerarium Curiosum*." Finding his health inadequate to the fatigue of his profession, he turned his view to the church, and was ordained at Croyden, July 20th, 1730. In the October following he was presented to the living of All Saints, in the town of Stamford, and was afterwards Rector of St. Peter's, and Master of Brown's Hospital, in the same place. He appears to have had the offer of several better livings, which he declined. He was presented by the Duke of Ancaster with the living of Somerby, who also appointed him one of his chaplains. About the time of these promotions, he published an account of *Stonchenge*\*. At the instance

\* This curious work displays much speculation and theory; but, exclusive of the descriptive facts which serve to perpetuate certain parts of that extraordinary monument, it is likely to deceive and bewilder the reader. The young antiquary, if I may be allowed the phrase, must scrutinize and doubt almost the greater part of the doctor's writings, if he wishes to avoid error and false opinions. It is much to be regretted that the *Elements of English Antiquities* have never been perspicuously and rationally elucidated: they are reducible to a few points: and I am persuaded, might be easily and usefully developed. Potter and Harwood have explained those of the Grecians; whilst Kennet, Adams, and others, have described such as appertained

instance of the Duke of Montague, he resigned his preferments in the country, and, in lieu of them, accepted the Rectory of St. George's, Queen Square, London. He was seized with a paralytic stroke, which terminated fatally the 3d of March, 1765; when, by temperance and regularity, he had attained his seventy-eighth year. Thus ended a valuable life, sedulously spent in endeavouring to illustrate the obscure remains of antiquity. His early writings presaged what might justly be expected in maturer years, and the lovers of antiquarian studies were not disappointed. He had a sagacity peculiar to great genius, joined with unwearied industry. But in his investigations he appears too partial to a favourite hypothesis, and too fanciful in his descriptions for the impartial enquirer after truth. His character has been given by his friend, Mr. Peter Collinson, and printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for the year 1765. His principal works are, 1. "*Itinerarium Curiosum, or an Account of the Curiosities and Antiquities of Great Britain.*" Folio. 2. "*An Account of Stonehenge and Avebury.*" 2 vols. Folio. 3. "*Palæographia Sacra, or Discourses of the Monuments of Antiquity, that relate to Sacred History.*" Quarto. 4. "*Palæographia Britannica.*" Quarto. 5. "*History of Carausius.*" 2 vols. Quarto. 6. "*Dissertation on the Spleen.*" Folio.

About a mile and a half from Holbeach is the village of GEDNEY, worthy of notice for its church, which "is the lightest and most airy, and perhaps the loftiest of any in this part of the county\*." It consists of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, porch, and tower. The number of windows in the whole are fifty-three. In those of the north aisle are considerable remains of fine painted glass. The south door has a curious copper

to the Romans; but no author has yet favoured the public with an exclusive work respecting those belonging to the British Islands. Having collected much matter for such a work, it is my intention, at some future period, to submit it to the world.

\* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 234.



copper lock, bearing an ancient inscription; and over the door is carved in oak, in Saxon letters, "Pax Christi sit huic domui & omnibus inhabitantibus in ea: hic requies nostra;" and under four blank shields, in capitals—IN HOPE. Against a south window of the nave is a monument with an effigy, sacred to *Adlard Walby*, Esq. of Gedney, who died 1576, and *Cassandra* his wife.

At *Gothey Hill*, which is a chapelry in this parish, several *Roman coins* have been found; and about two miles north of South Sea bank, in a field called the *high downs*, is an encampment with a double foss, wherein numerous Roman coins have been discovered, also the foundations of buildings. Another similar mooted area is in the parish of *Sutton St. Edmund's*, about an equal distance from the same bank; and at *Asric grange*, near Whaplode-drove chapel, is another similar encampment, where also various *coins* and *urns* have been dug up. These encampments, which form a triangle, are within view of each other, and being in the south-eastern extremity of the county, near Catscove corner, Mr. Britain, as quoted by Stukeley, supposed were Roman *Castella*, raised to secure the possession of the country: he also conjectures that they were the works of a Roman general of the name of Catus.

In WHAPLODE were discovered various pipes inserted in each other, for the purpose of conveying water; and in the Sea Dyke Bank, between Fleet and Gedney, was dug up a brass sword, which Stukeley considered to have been of Roman fabric.

### SPALDING

Is a considerable and ancient market-town, in the southern part of the division, about eight miles to the west of Holbeach. Seated in the midst of a fenney district, and encompassed by the river Welland, and an ancient drain called the Westlode, with numerous other drains in the vicinity, Spalding has, not inappropriately, been compared to a Dutch town. Though thus situated, and though

though such a site does not appear to be congenial to human healthfulness, it certainly lays claim to great antiquity, as is testified by many ancient remains which have been discovered in the town and its vicinity. It certainly existed before the foundation of Croyland Abbey, for in the Charter of King Ethelbald to that Monastery, the bounds of its lands are described as extending "*usque ad ædificia Spaldeling* \*." Anterior to the conquest, the manor was the property of Algar, Earl of Mercia; subsequent to that event, it was granted with the whole of Hollaud by William the Conqueror, to his nephew, *Ivo Tailbois*. After various changes, it at present is the property of Lord Eardley, who was some years since created Baron Spalding. Another manor, called Spalding cum Croyland, belongs to Thomas Buckworth, Esq. A castle was erected here by Ivo Tailbois, the moat of which was visible in 1746, in part of the castlefields, called Coney Garth, where that proud baron used to reside in great splendour. He also added to the endowments of the priory, which Thorold de Brokenhale founded, A. D. 1051, for six Benedictine monks, and made it a cell to Croyland. This religious house became in succeeding times a monastery of great consequence, and was one of the two mitred ones in this county. The accounts of the different altercations between its priors and the abbots of Croyland, tend to illustrate the spirit and manners of the times. Richard Palmer, the last prior, surrendered his convent into the king's hands, A. D. 1540, at which period its annual revenues were valued, according to Speed, at 1217l. 5s. 11d. From this place Egelric, Abbot of Croyland, made a firm causeway, called *Elrick-road*, through the marsh, called *Arundel Forest*, to Deeping, being an extent of twelve miles. It was formed by driving in piles of wood, and covering them over with layers of gravel; but no traces of this road are visible. The churches of Holy Cross, and "St. Mary Stokys," being decayed, and the conventual church, though spacious, much crowded; the prior, pulled down the latter,

\* Ingulphus. Hist. p. 485.



latter, and built the present parish church, in the year 1284. It is a light structure, with a handsome spire, which has crockets at the angles; its beautiful porch appears to have been added about the end of the fifteenth century. A house, for a free grammar school, was erected here in the reign of Elizabeth; it was bequeathed by the will of John Blanche, bearing date 27th of May, 1588, wherein he devised lands for the endowment.

Another school, called the *Petty School*, in contradistinction to the grammar school, was founded by *Thomas Wellesby*, gent. in the year 1682. Here is also a blue-coat charity school, which was founded by a person of the name of *Gamlyn*. In Church-street is an almshouse, which was rebuilt in 1754, and contains eleven tenements, each having a plot of garden-ground. It was founded and endowed by Sir Mathew Gamlyn, A. D. 1590, for the benefit of twenty-two poor persons. Another almshouse, for eight poor widows, was erected August 19th, A. D. 1709, by Mrs. Elizabeth Sparke.

For many centuries Spalding has been the principal seat of jurisdiction, for the division of Holland. In the Saxon times, the courts of law were held here by the Earls; and subsequent to the Norman conquest, the priors, under their patrons the Dukes of Lancaster, and afterwards the Earls of Lincoln, till the suppression of the monastery, were vested with the judicial authority. During that period even capital offences were cognizable in the conventual court of this district. But at the dissolution of religious houses, statutes were enacted which removed the power of deciding on life and death from all such inferior courts\*. Since that time a court of sessions has been held here; for which purpose a town-hall, or, as it is termed, a court-house, was built at the expence of Mr. John Holstan. It is a substantial brick building,  
situated

\* From the register of Spalding manor, by Sir Lawrence Myntling, librarian and illuminator of the abbey, it appears, that under the power of this local court, eighty felons were hanged on the Prior's gallows, from the forty-first year of Henry the Third, to the sixteenth of Henry the Seventh.

situated at the north-west end of the market-place; the upper rooms of it are used for the quarter sessions, the courts leet and baron, the court of requests, and the court of sewers. The under part of the building is let out for shops, conformably to the will of the founder, and the rents appropriated to the use of the poor. A small company of comedians was accustomed to perform, at one season of the year, in the upper rooms; but for their better accommodation, a small theatre has been erected near the market-place: and an assembly and card-rooms fitted up, adjoining the town-hall.

Spalding, since the river Welland was made navigable to the town, has enjoyed a good carrying and coasting trade. It is registered, in the book of rates at the custom-house, "a member of the port of Boston." The river is navigable for barges of about forty tons burthen to the centre of the town, where are good quays with spacious store-houses; but vessels that require a large draught of water can come no further than *Boston Scalp*, distant about nine miles. Various attempts have been unsuccessfully made to introduce manufactures into Spalding; the town derives its principal support at present from agriculture, and the many extensive grazing concerns carried on in the vicinity. Wool consequently forms a very prominent feature in its trade; more especially since allowance has been given, under certain restrictions, to carry the article coastwise. The neighbourhood supplies the manufacturing towns of Yorkshire and Norfolk with long wool, which is here deposited and packed, and carried to the respective places. Spalding has a flourishing market weekly on Tuesdays; five fairs annually, and two statutes for hiring servants. By the returns under the late act, the number of houses was 737; of inhabitants 3,296. The establishment of the society of antiquaries at London, in the beginning of the last century, gave rise to several minor establishments in different provincial towns. Literary societies were established at Peterborough, Doncaster, and Stamford; but the one formed here, under the auspices of *Maurice Johnson*, flourished for many years, and was composed of several gentlemen,  
eminent



opponent for literary talents. The minutes or records of the meetings contain many valuable hints and discoveries: in the style of corporate antiquity, they modestly assumed, for their house of meeting, the denomination of "a *Call* to that of London:" to which society transcripts of their minutes were regularly sent for upwards of forty years.

The above named MAURICE JOHNSON, a native of this place, and son of Maurice Johnson, Esq. steward of the courts, was educated under that eminent scholar, Dr. Juxia. He afterwards studied at the Inner Temple, London; was appointed steward of the *Soke*, or manor of Spalding; then belonging to the Duke of Buccleugh; and also of Kirkton, the property of the Earl of Exeter. An early member of the society of antiquaries, he displayed, through the whole of his life, an ardent love of science and literature. He was the intimate friend of Stakeley, Gale, and others, who were celebrated for antiquarian research; and was the founder of the Spalding society, so congenial to his own taste; which, by his zeal and attention, continued to flourish till his death, on the sixth of February, in the year 1755\*.

At PINCHBECK, about three miles north of Spalding, are some considerable remains of an ancient mansion, which formerly bore the name of *Pinchbeck Hall*, from a family of that name. Being afterwards possessed by the Otway family, it then acquired the appellation of *Otway Hall*. It appears to have been originally a large building, and was erected about the time of Henry the Eighth. It was moated round, and a few of the windows have pointed lights, with square heads. The chimnies are singularly lofty, and the gable ends have at the sides and centre spire-shaped ornaments, each crowned with an ornamental ball. In the gardens of this mansion was discovered, in the year 1742, a large brass coin of *Commodus*; on the reverse, a woman sitting on a globe,

\* An eulogium of his character, written by his friend Dr. Stakeley, is preserved in the minutes of the society of antiquaries.

globe, with her right hand extended, and in her left, a victory. In the following year several pipes of baked earth were found here. The house has lately been purchased by a farmer, who resides in it. About eight miles south of Spalding is

### CROYLAND, OR CROWLAND,

A town of very remote antiquity, and peculiarly interesting to the antiquary, from the ruins of its once splendid and extensive abbey, and its singular triangularly-shaped bridge. Some writers, particularly Dr. Stukeley, have supposed that the Romans had a settlement here, from the various ancient remains of that people, which have been discovered in the vicinity; but this is not very probable. The situation was not adapted for a military station, nor would it be selected for a villa. Early in the Anglo Saxon dynasty it was however occupied; and we are informed that Ethelbald, King of Mercia, founded a monastery here, and dedicated it "to the honour of St. Mary, St. Bartholomew, and St. Guthlac\*." The history of Croyland is involved in that of its monastery, which constitutes the chief and almost only prominent artificial object of interest or curiosity. It appears from the charter of Ethelbald, that the lands belonging to the abbey, comprehended "the whole island of Croyland, formed by the four waters of *Shepishee* on the east; *Nene* on the west; *Southee* on the south; and *Asendyk* on the north; in length four leagues, in breadth three,

VOL. IX.

3 B

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\* This Saint was the son of a Mercian nobleman, named *Perwald*, and his mother's name was *Tetha*. At an early period of life he distinguished himself in the army; but having completed his twenty-fourth year, he renounced the world; and became a monk under the Abbess *Elfrida*, in the monastery of *Repton*. "By divine guidance he came in a boat to one of those solitary desert islands, called *Crulande*, on St. Bartholomew's day; and in an hollow, on the side of an heap of turf, built himself a hut in the days of *Conrad*, King of Mercia; when the Britons gave their inveterate enemies, the Saxons, all the trouble they could." Gough's Hist. and Antiq. of Croyland.



with the marshes adjoining on both sides the Weland, part of which to the north, called *Gaggialand*, is two leagues long from Croyland bridge to *Aspath*, and one league broad from the Weland south to *Aspath*, and another part of the marsh south of the Weland, two leagues long, from Croyland bridge to Southlake; and two leagues broad from the Weland to Fynset, with fishery in the waters of *Nene* and *Weland*." The charter is dated A. D. 716, and witnessed by *Bethwald*, Archbishop of Canterbury; *Winfred*, Archbishop of the *Mercians*; *Ingwald*, Bishop of London; *Aldwin*, Bishop of *Litchfield*; *Tobias*, Bishop of *Rochester*; *Ethelred*, Abbot of *Bardney*; *Egbert*, Abbot of *Maddesbamsted*; *Egga*, Earl of *Lincoln*; *Lurie*, Earl of *Leicester*, &c. The monarch further gave towards the building of the monastery, 300 pounds in silver, and 100 pounds a year for ten years to come; he also authorized the monks to build, or inclose a town for their own use, with a right of common for themselves and their servants. The foundation being in a marshy soil, the builders were obliged to drive piles of oak and ash, before they began to raise the edifice; indeed this appears to have been first constructed with timber, for *Ingulphus* says, that the wooden oratory of *Guthlac* was succeeded by a church, and house of stone, in which dwelt a succession of religious persons.

"Nunc exercet ibi se munificentia regis  
Et magnum templum, magno molimine condet \*."

After the massacre of the monks at this place, and destruction of the abbey by the Danes, A. D. 870, King *Ethelred*, to gratify his favourite and Chancellor *Turketyl*, or *Turketule*, restored the alienated lands about the year 948; and encouraged him to rebuild the abbey; which was begun, but not completed, till the succeeding

\* Gough's History and Antiquities of Croyland Abbey.

The original charter in Saxon characters, the initial letters and cross gilt, was shown to the Society of Antiquaries by Mr. Lethieuller, in the year 1734.

succeeding reign. In the year 1091, a most calamitous event befel the monastery, which Ingulphus in his history pathetically describes. This was a desolating fire, which was occasioned by the carelessness of a Plumber, “whereby was cruelly laid waste the habitations of the servants of God.” In the year 1112, under the auspices of its Abbot *Joffred*, it was again rebuilt; and the account of the manner in which it was accomplished, tends to illustrate the spirit of the times. The relation of Peter Blesensis demonstratively proves, that however different the acceptation of the terms may be, superstition and enthusiasm are intimately allied; and that the former is the base, while the latter is the superstructure. The abbot obtained of the archbishops and bishops remission of a *third part of the penance enjoined for sins*, to all who would assist in the pious undertaking. Under this commission Joffred dispatched the monks, as preaching mendicants, in every direction, to solicit alms for the purpose; and having procured by these, and other means, a tolerable fund, he appointed the festival of *St. Perpetua and Felicitas*, for the ceremony of laying the foundation stone. Numbers of the nobility, clergy, and commonalty assembled on the occasion. After the service of mass was ended, the abbot laid the first stone, at the eastern end; then the nobles, and others, a stone in turn; and upon the respective stones were laid sums of money, grants of lands, institutions to churches, rectorial and vicarial tithes, &c. Others contributed stone, labour, &c. according to their means and situation in life. On all these benefactors the abbot, when he had finished the discourse, which he addressed to them, while the stones were laying, bestowed a share in the prayers and services of the church, with the before recited episcopal indulgences; and after pronouncing his blessing, the whole were invited to a sumptuous repast. It is related that more than five thousand persons were present at this solemnity. The monastery from this period rapidly rose in fame, and the celebrity of its monks, for their learning and piety, procured for it most ample benefactions, and it progressively increased in wealth and splendour. At the dissolution,



its annual revenues were estimated by Speed, at 1217l. 5s. 11d. The site was granted, in the fourth year of Edward the Sixth, to Edward Lord Clinton. After the abbey had lost its ecclesiastical inhabitants, the building soon fell into a dilapidated state; and during the civil wars of the seventeenth century, when the place was a garrison, first for the Royal, and then for the Parliamentary forces, it suffered still further devastation. The only remnant at present, is a portion of the conventual church, which is highly interesting to the architect and antiquary. The choir, central tower, transepts, and the whole of the east end are down: what portions at present are found standing are the skeleton of the nave, with parts of the south and north aisles; the latter of which is covered over, pewed and fitted up as the parish church. This portion is said to have been built by Abbot Bardney, in the year 1247. The roof is groined, and the south side separated from the nave by pointed arches, which have been walled up. The nave, in ruins, is one hundred forty-four feet in length, and twenty-eight in breadth. The nine pointed arches on the north side were filled up to enclose the north aisle; and on the south side remain six pointed arches, about eleven feet wide, and part of another. These have mouldings, descending to the ground, without column or band. Over these is part of an upper tier of windows, with three mullions in each. At the east end of the nave is a large semicircular arch, with zigzag mouldings, which spring from very singular capitals. The part of the west-front, which stands at the end of the south aisle, exhibits four tiers of arcades; the lowest of which displays a row of narrow round arches with zigzag mouldings; and those above have pointed arches. The entrance to the nave was by a handsome pointed archway with quatrefoiled head, containing figures in basso relievo: over which was the large west window, ornamented in the same stile. The whole of the front of the nave is highly decorated with niches and canopies, in which are various sculptured figures, representing St. Peter, and other apostles, with effigies of kings, saints, and abbots. One of which is said to be a representation of King Ethelwald, the founder







founder of the abbey. Another is acknowledged to be St. Guthlac, the saint of the fen country, by a whip placed in his right hand, emblematic of the discipline he used to bestow on himself. The whole front is in a very ruinous condition\*. At the west end of the north aisle is a tower crowned by a low spire; and some part of the wall, and piers of the arches, belonging to the south aisle, are yet standing. In a canopied niche, in the wall of the tower, belonging to the north aisle, is a curious circular *stone-font*; which, from its form, appears to be very ancient; and probably belonged to a baptistery of the abbey in the Saxon period. The nave and aisles are said, by some writers, to have been executed by William de Croyland, "Master of the Works," in the time of Abbot Upton, between the years 1417 and 1427.

Next to these venerable ruins, the *triangular bridge*, in the middle of the town, may be regarded as an object of "the greatest curiosity in Britain, if not in Europe†." The singularity of its shape has induced some persons to suppose, that it was emblematic of the Trinity; and built rather for the purpose of exciting admiration, than for real utility; and its steep ascent on all sides has been adduced as supporting such a suggestion. From this circumstance, carriages generally go under it; but it is easily passed by horse and foot passengers‡. The form it assumes, and the steepness of its approach, both arise from the situation in which it is placed. The rivers Welland, Nene, and a drain called Cat-

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water

\* Figures of these statues, as they appeared in the year 1780, are engraved in Carter's "Specimens of ancient sculpture, now remaining in this kingdom." P. 4.

† Gough's History of Croyland Abbey.

‡ There is a bridge, which has been mentioned as *similar* to this, upon the road between St. Omer's and Calais, in France. It was erected about the year 1754, over a part of the road crossed by two canals, at right angles. The bridge consists of four circular arches, supported by four abutments, uniting in the centre. It is called, *Pont Sans Pareil*.



water flow under it, and in times of flood, had it not been considerably raised on the abutments, it would have been liable to be swept away by the torrent. By its being mentioned in a charter of King *Edred*, as the *triangular bridge* of Croyland, and in preceding charters simply as the bridge of Croyland; it has been conjectured that it was built antecedent to that charter's being granted, which was about the year 941. Mr. Essex, however, doubts this, and thinks that the present bridge was erected not earlier than the time of Edward the First, or Second\*. If any thing can be deduced from the statue placed against the wall, it is probably anterior to either of the above periods.

This *Statue* is said to be a representation of King *Ethelbald*. From the extreme rudeness of the figure, the disproportion of the parts, the uncouthness of the head-dress, drapery, &c. it is probably a genuine specimen of Saxon sculpture. The figure is placed in a sitting posture, at the end of the south-west wall of the bridge. It has a crown on the head, behind which are two wings, the arms bound together, round the shoulders a kind of mantle, in the left hand something like a truncheon; and in the right, is a globe. The late Mr. Hunter supposed, that it represented King *Henry the Second*; and Willis calls it a figure of *St. Guthlac*. The former conjecture is improbable from the rudeness of the sculpture, and the latter is done away by the crown fleury on the head. The bridge consists of three piers or abutments, whence spring three pointed arches, which unite their groins in the centre. The whole is formed of stone, and at the middle of it three roads meet, the ascent is steep from each point, and the road is pitched with pebbles.

Though formerly a place of such celebrity, Croyland is now reduced to the size of a large village; and little more than the ruins of its former splendour remain. It had formerly a market, which was removed to *Thorney*, as a more eligible place; and all attempts

\* Observations on Croyland bridge, published in Gough's *History of Croyland Abbey*.

attempts to bring it back, have proved fruitless. The fair, which used to continue for twelve days, is still held on St. Bartholomew's day. By the returns under the late act, it appears, the number of houses was 229, and of inhabitants, 1,245. This village is so surrounded with fens, as to be inaccessible, except from the north and east; in which directions the road is formed by artificial banks of earth. From this singular situation, it has been compared to *Venice*. The inhabitants are principally occupied in grazing, attending geese, or in the business of the dairy. Many derive a livelihood from the sale of fish and wild fowl; but for the privilege of catching them they pay to the crown 300*l.* per annum. The granting this privilege was formerly vested in the monastery.

The manor and estates belonging to the abbey, are said to have been bounded by certain stone *crosses*, most of which are destroyed or down. The form, inscriptions, and appropriations of which have furnished themes for several different dissertations of antiquaries. That called *St. Guthlac's*, is still to be seen near Brothertoft turnpike, on the road to Spalding. It is of a square pyramidal shape, tapering upward from one foot four inches, at the base; but the top of the shaft is broken off. The alternate sides are equilateral; and one of its faces bears an illegible inscription. Governor Pownall thought it referred to the names of five brethren, left in the house when refounded by Turketyl. The first words are sufficiently distinct, "*Aio hanc petram.*" And Camden thus would read the remainder, "*Guthlacus dabit sibi metam.*"

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KESTEVEN, the third great division of the county, is bounded on the north and north-east by the river Witham, which separates it from Lindsey; on the east by the division of Holland; on the south by the river Welland; which divides it from Northamptonshire; and by parts of Nottingham, Leicester, and Rutland-shires, on the west. This district is subdivided into ten wapentakes,



takes, and contains seven market towns, viz. BOURNE, CORBY, MARKET DEEPING, FOLKINGHAM, GRANTHAM, SLEAFORD, and STAMFORD, with 181 parishes. The features of this division are very diversified, and the soils greatly varied: the western part is fine arable, as well as grazing land, and parts of it are well wooded; more particularly the wapentake of Belkialoe. About Sleaford is a tract of fertile pasture land, sufficiently dry for sheep; and yet calculated for fattening large cattle. The variations of soil are nearly all in a longitudinal direction from north to south. The south-western part contains some handsome seats of the nobility and gentry, and abounds with woods, particularly about Belton, Denton, and Grimsthorpe. The eastern side of the division is low and swampy, partaking of the nature of the adjacent marsh lands in the division of Holland. The south-western part was at a former period denominated a forest, as well as fen; and formed part of the possessions of Leofric Earl of Mercia, who was Lord of Brune and the adjoining marshes. In the time of King Henry the First it was enlarged and afforested by royal mandate. The extent, as described by Dugdale, "was from the bridge of East Deeping, now Market Deeping, to the church of Swaiston, on the one side; and from the bridge of Bicker, and Wragmire Stake, on the other side; which Metes divided the north parts, and the river of Welland the south; excepting the fen of Goggisland, in regard it was a sanctuary of holy church, as belonging to the abbey of Croyland. And being thus made forest, it continued so until King Henry the Third's time, who, in the 16th year of his reign, granted unto all the inhabitants within the same, that it should thenceforth be disafforested\*." "The men of Kesteven gave 250 marcs to have the king's charter, for deforesting this of Kesteven according to the boundaries contained in that charter†."

This

\* Dugdale's *Imbanking and Draining*, p. 194, 195. The patent was confirmed by King Edward the Third, in the twentieth year of his reign.

† *Mag. Rot. 14. Hen. III. Linc. m. 2, 6*, as quoted in Gough's *Camden*.

This division having been mostly inclosed, drained, and cultivated, contains much rich and valuable land.

**BOOTHBY GRAFFO** Wapentake, high division, contains the parishes of *Boothby, Colby, Harmston, Navenby, Skinnard, Swinethorpe Hamlet, Welbourne, Wellingore*;—low division, *Aubourn, Bassingham, Bontham, Carlton in Moorlands, Doddington, Eagle, Waddington, Hykeham North, Hykeham South, Norton Disney, Scarle North, Skellingthorpe, Stapleford, Swinderby, Thorp on the Hill, Thurlby, and Wisby.*

Through this wapentake a Roman road passes from Lincoln to *Brough*, a village just without the bounds of the county, where Stukeley and Horsley endeavour to fix the ancient station of **CROCOLANA**.

At **EAGLE**, or **EGLE**, was a Commandry of knights templars, who had the manor granted them by King Stephen. It afterwards was possessed by the hospitalars; and upon their suppression, in the thirty-third year of Henry the Eighth, it was granted to Thomas Earl of Rutland, and Robert Tirwhit.

In the chancel of **NORTON DISNEY** church is the figure of a woman, with a cross and four shields: round which is this inscription: " Ici gist Joan que fust la femme moun Gillam Disni, et file moun Sire Nicolas de Lancforte Deu eite merci de sa alme. Amen\*."

" In the same church is a brass plate, put up about the middle of the reign of Elizabeth, commemorating William Disney, Esq. Sheriff of London, 1532; and Richard Disney, Esq. his eldest

son

\* Gough's Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. pt. 1. Intro. cix.



son and heir, burgess for Grantham, 1554, and Sheriff of Lincolnshire, 1557 and 1566; with their wives and issue. At the back is a long inscription, in the German or Low Dutch language, recording the foundation of a chantry on the Continent\*."

In the parish of BOOTHBY, or BOOTHBY GRAFFO, are the ruins of SOMERTON CASTLE, situated about eight miles south of Lincoln. The original building was erected about the year 1305, by *Anthony Bec*, bishop of Durham, who presented it to King Edward the First; by whom it was afterwards granted to William de Beaumont. In this castle *Sir Saier de Rockford*, who proved himself a valiant soldier in the French wars, undertook, in the thirty-third year of King Edward the Third, to keep safely the King of France, then a prisoner in England. For which service he was to be allowed *two shillings per day*†. From the present remains we are justified in supposing that the whole must have been a noble and capacious building. An outer and inner moat inclosed a rectangular area of considerable extent. The dimensions of which are about two hundred, by two hundred and fifty-one feet.

At the angles of the area are the remains of four circular towers, which appear to have been formerly connected by intermediate buildings. The south-east tower is nearly entire, and the upper part surrounded by a parapet, out of which rise three pinnacles; and in the centre an octangular spire-shaped roof. The south-west tower, in ruins, contains an octangular apartment, with eight niches; in one of which is the door way. The north-west tower is nearly in the same state, and that on the south-west exhibits a similar construction, except, that in every niche is a pointed window. In the remains of the north-east tower is an apartment with a curious vaulted roof, supported by an umbilical pillar, from which spring twelve arches, forming in the wall as many niches; in each of which is a pointed arched window. This interesting ruin is the property

\* Gough's Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. pt. 1. Intro. cxxii.

† Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. VI. p. 131.

property of Montague Cholmondley, Esq. of Easton, and is at present, with some adjoining buildings, occupied as a farm house.

LANGOE WAPENTAKE, first division, contains the parishes of *Billinghoy, Dogdyke, Kirkby Green, Kyme North, Martin* hamlet, *Thorpe, Tinley, Timberland, Walcott* hamlet. Second division; *Blackney, Dunston, Heighington* township, *Metheringham, Nocton, Potterhanworth, Scopwick, and Washingborough.*

In the parish of DUNSTON, at the distance of about five miles and a half south from Lincoln, is a lofty column, called DUNSTON PILLAR. It stands in a square area, which is planted with trees, and enclosed by a wall. It is a plain quadrangular stone shaft, of a pyramidical shape, towering to the height of ninety-two feet, with an octagonal lantern, fifteen and a half feet high, crowned with a fane at top. The lantern is surrounded by a ballustraded gallery, resting on a cornice. From the summit is an extensive prospect, including, with a great extent of the surrounding country, the cathedral and city of Lincoln. The different faces of the pillar bear each an appropriate inscription. On the north side, *To Lincoln v miles;* south side, *From the city CXX miles;* east side, *Dunston Pillar;* west side, *Columnam hanc utilitati publicæ, D. D. D. F. Dashwood, M.DCC.LI.* The heath being then an extensive waste, and the roads intricate, it was of great utility; but since that period, the lands having been inclosed, the roads fenced, and mile stones erected, it only now remains as a monument of the benevolence and public spirit of the person who caused it to be raised.

Upon a high ridge of land, called *Cliffrow*, near the Roman road,



road, and seven miles from Lincoln, is **COLEBY HALL**, the seat of General Bertie. It is a fine old house, to which additions have been made in a more modern style, and is surrounded with plantations. The entrance into the grounds is by an arch, which was intended to imitate the ruin of a Roman gateway. The gardens are ornamented by two temples: a small one upon the terrace is of the Doric order, dedicated to the memory of the late Earl of Chatham; the other, built upon the model of the temple of Romulus and Remus, at Rome, from a design of the late Sir William Chambers, is said to be the first building which he ever erected in England, that displayed the taste of this eminent architect.

**NOCTON PARK**, about two miles and a half north-east from *Dunston Pillar*, and seven miles south-east of Lincoln, is the handsome seat of the Earl of Buckinghamshire. It is recorded, that in the time of King Stephen, Robert de Arci, or D'Arci, erected, in his *park* at Nocton, a priory for black canons of the Augustine order. At the time of the dissolution, it had five monks, whose annual revenues amounted, according to Speed, to the sum of 57l. 19s. 2d. The site was granted by Henry the Eighth to Charles, Duke of Suffolk; and in the time of Elizabeth, it was bestowed by the crown on Sir Henry Stanley, Lord Strange. By the Stanley family it was converted into a residence; but the greater part of the old house was afterwards taken down, and the present mansion rebuilt by Sir William Ellys, Bart. in the latter end of the seventeenth century. The house is a handsome building, for that period, consisting of a body with two wings, the angles turretted, with cupolas at top; and in the centre rises an octangular cupola, or lantern. The grounds were planted and laid out agreeably to the formal prevailing taste of the times, but have been much altered and improved by the present noble proprietor. The prospects are numerous, varied, and extensive; and near the mansion stands a chestnut tree, considered the finest of the kind in England.

At

At CATTELEY, in the parish of *Billingham*, was a Gilbertine *Priory*, founded by *Peter de Bilingey*, in the time of King Stephen, for nuns and brethren of the order of Sempringham. At the dissolution, the annual endowment was, according to Speed, 38l. 13s. 8d. The site was granted, by Henry the Eighth, to Robert Carr, of Sleaford, whose father was a rich merchant of the staple\*.

FLEXWELL WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Anwick*, *Ashby*, *Bloxholme*, *Branswell*, *Cranwell*, *Digby*, *Dorington*, *Leasingham*, *Rauceby North*, *Rauceby South*, *Rowleston*, *Roxholme* hamlet, *Ruskington*, and *Sleaford New*, including the hamlet of *Holdingham*.

In the north-western angle of this wapentake, at the distance of about ten miles from Lincoln, are the ruins of

TEMPLE BRUER, which formerly was a religious house. "Here was, before A. D. 1185, a preceptory, first of Knights Templars, and after of the Hospitalars, who had annexed such possessions to it as were valued, twenty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, at 184l. 6s. 8d. per annum, as Dugdale and Speed†." The church is said to have been built after the model of that of St. Sepulchre, at Jerusalem. "There be great and vaste buildinges," says Leland, "but rude at this place, and the este end of the temple is made *opere circulari de more*‡" At present only a few vaults, and the tower of the church are left. The latter is a massy quadrangular building, and is accessible to the top by a winding stone staircase. The lower part, used by the occupier of an adjacent farm house, is nearly entire; has a window

\* Tanner's Notit. Monast.

† Tanner's Not. Monast.

‡ Itinerary, Vol. I. p. 32.



a window with a double pointed arch, and the entrance is by a retiring circular-headed door-way. Opposite Temple Brer, Stukeley describes his having seen a stone cross, "cut through in the shape of that borne by the Knights Templars," and which he supposed was erected to mark the boundary of their demesnes. "The Hermin Street hereabout is very bold and perfect, made of stone, gathered all along from the superficial quarries. It goes perfectly strait from *Ancaster to Lincoln*, full north, butting upon the west side of Lincoln town. 'Tis about thirty foot broad, made of stone, piled into an easy convexity. There is generally likewise a little trench dug on both sides the road \*."

#### SLEAFORD, OR NEW SLEAFORD,

A considerable market town, distant south from Lincoln fourteen miles, is situated upon a small rivulet, called the *Slea*, which rises in the vicinity, and runs to *Chapel Hill*, where it joins the river Witham. Many Roman coins, of the Constantine family, have been found about the spring head, near the castle. Stukeley, from this and other circumstances, conjectures that this was a Roman town. "We find the distance between *Caster* and *Lincoln*," says he, "about forty miles, and has two towns upon it, at proper intervals for lodging; these are *Sleaford* and *Stanfield*. The original name of them are in irrecoverable silence; but the eternity of the Romans is inherent. 'Tis probable that Alexander, the Bishop of Lincoln, built his work upon the scite of a Roman citadel. Beside, at Sleaford comes in the other Roman road from the fen country, by *Brig End Causey*, and at the intersection of these two roads the old town stood †." The work here alluded to was the castle, which, in Leland's time, was standing, and is thus described by him. "Without the towne of Sleaford standith, west-south-west, the propre castell of Sleaford, very well mantayned; and it is compassed with a renning

\* Itin. Curios. p. 82.

† Itin. Curios. p. 8.

ning streame, cumming by a cut oute of a little seene, lying almoste flatte weste against it. In the gateway be two portcullices, a high toure in the middle of the castelle, but not set upon a hill of raised earth: the vaults of the castle by the ground be fair. The house, or manor place, lately almost new, buildid of stone and timbre by the Lord Husey, standith southward without the town. The town nor market is of no price; the ornaments of it is the Bishop of Lincoln's castle and the late Lord Hussey's house\*." Since Leland's time, however, Sleaford has become a different place, and is at present improving, both as to buildings and population. The castle has been wholly levelled to the ground, and Lord Hussey's mansion, at Old Sleaford, is now a farm house.

The church is a handsome, spacious structure, and, from a manuscript found in the parish chest, it appears to have been built in the year 1271, by Roger Blunt and Roger Brickham, of Sleaford, *merchants*. It was dedicated to St. Dennis, and endowed A. D. 1277. It consists of a chancel, nave, transept, and north and south ailes, with a tower, crowned by a spire, which rises to the height of 144 feet. The western front is curious, and rather elegant in its design and ornaments. It has three entrance door-ways, each having a differently shaped arch; and above these are three windows, also varying from each other. Part of this façade displays the circular style, which was probably erected by Bishop Alexander. The windows, pinnacles, and ornaments, are all greatly diversified, and some of them particularly elegant. In the chancel are several monuments to the family of CARR, some of whom were long resident in the neighbourhood; one to the memory of Joseph Carr, who died September 11th, 1590; another to Sir Edward Carr, who died October 1st, 1618; and a third to Robert Carr, Chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and a privy counsellor, who died November 14th, 1682.

By Joseph Carr, one of this family, a *free school* was erected, and liberally endowed, in the year 1603; and also an *hospital* for

\* Itinerary, Vol. I. fol. 30.



for twelve poor men. The manor and estates came by marriage with an heiress of the Carr family, to the present Earl of Bristol. The petty sessions are held in this town, which has a well supplied market on Mondays, and four annual fairs. The number of houses returned under the late population act was 333, and of inhabitants 1,483.

At KYME, about three miles from Sleaford, in Leland's time, was "a goodly house and park." Philip de Kyme, in the time of King Henry the Second, built here a priory for black canons, of the order of St. Augustine, to the honour of the Blessed Virgin. Willis, in his History of Abbies, observes, that this house, in the time of Henry the Eighth, was *surrendered* to the king by the prior and nine canons. Its annual revenues were valued at 138l. 4s. 9d.

In the twenty-first year of Henry the Eighth, *Sir Gilbert Talbois* was created Baron Talbois, of Kyme. He lies buried in the church, under a marble slab, on which is a brass plate, with this inscription:—"Gilbert, Lord Talbois, Lord of Kyme, married Elizabeth the daughter of Sir John Blount, Knight, of Kinlet, in Shropshire; and died 15th of April, A. D. 1530." His widow was the celebrated mistress of that lecherous monarch, Henry the Eighth; and it is more than probable that the *coronet* was the *doceur* for the infamous connivance of Talbois at his own dishonour.

About four miles east of Sleaford is HAVERHOLME PRIORY, the seat of Sir Jenison William Gordon, Bart. The house and grounds occupy an area of about 300 acres, which constitute an island, formed by two branches of the river Lea. This manor was given, "by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, to the Cistercian monks of Fountain's Abbey, in Yorkshire, about the year 1137, that they might build an abbey of that order; but after having made some progress in the same, they pretended not to like the situation, and thereupon removed to Louth Park. The good  
bishop

bishop quickly disposed of the island here, to the nuns and canons of the new and strict order of St. Gilbert, of Sempringham, who settled there A. D. 1139, and continued till the general dissolution, when their income was rated at 88l. 5s. 3d. per annum.—Speed. The site was granted, the thirtieth of Henry the Eighth, to Edward Lord Clinton\*.” The present possessor of Haverholme made numerous additions to the old remains in the year 1788, and has formed a mansion in a style corresponding with the importance of the place.

LOVEDON WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Ancaster, Beckingham, Binnington Long, Broughton Brant, Carlton Scroope, Caythorpe with Friston, Claypole, Doddington Dry, Fenton, Foston, Fulbeck, Hough on the Hill, Hougham, Leadenham, Marston, Normanton, Stragglethorpe, Stubton, and Westborough.*

ANCASTER is situated on the great Roman road, called Ermine Street, which is here denominated *High Dyke*. Here has evidently been a Roman station; and though Dr. Stukeley is positive as to the CAUSENNÆ of the Itinerary being at *Great Ponton*, yet the author of the *Britannia Romana*, from a comparison of the situation and circumstances of the two places, with much more probability fixes it here. The situation is low, and a brook flows at the north end of the village. The foss and rampart, according to Horsley, might easily be traced out†. “What was its Roman name I know not; but it has been a very strong city, entrenched, and walled about, as may be seen very plainly, for the most part, and perceived by those that are the least versed in these searches; the bowling-green behind the Red

\* Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*.

† *Britannia Romana*, p. 433.



Lion Ian is made in the ditch. When they were levelling it they came to the old foundation. At this end of the town, where a dove-coat stands, is *Castle Cloer*, full of foundations appearing every where above ground; the ditch and rampire encompasses it. Here are prodigious quantities of Roman coins found. Many people in the town have traded in the sale of them these thirty years\*." The coins are of various emperors. One, a denarius of Otho, found here, is in the cabinet of the Earl of Sandwich. Harrison† observes, that Mosaic pavements have been discovered at Ancaster. All which circumstances make it probable that this was the *Causennæ* of Antonine. It is, however, proper to observe, that the numbers, as they stand in the Itinerary, do not support this conjecture; neither will they agree with Great Ponton. However, "as it is impossible that Ancaster should be the place, if the numbers be just, so it is impossible any other place between Ancaster and Great Ponton should be it; for between these two places is nothing but bare heath, not a drop of water, not a village nearer than half a mile, no mark of a station, no coins found; but the plain, perfect, uninterrupted high ridge all the way‡." CAUSENNÆ, in the fifth Iter, is placed between DUROBRIVIS and LINDUM, thirty miles from the former, and twenty-six from the latter. This creates a difficulty respecting the station, which Horsley thought was best removed by supposing, that a transposition had occurred of the numeral VI, or that XXX. and XXVI. were, through mistake, set instead of XXXVI. and XX. over against the names CAUSENNIS and LINDO. Admitting this supposition, the general distance is preserved, and the particular distances exactly answer by placing CAUSENNÆ at *Ancaster*.

The church, and four carucates of land, in LONG BENNINGTON being given by Ralph de Filgeria, or Fulgeria, to the abbey

\* Stukeley's Itin. Curios. p. 80.

† Description of Britain, Vol. II. p. 17.    ‡ Stukeley's Letter to Horsley

abbey of Savigney, in Normany, before A. D. 1175, here was founded an *alien priory* of Cistercian monks, subordinate to that foreign monastery. During the wars with France, it was seized into the king's hands, and given by Richard the Second to the Carthusians of St. Anne's, near Coventry. Its revenues were then valued at 50*l.* per annum. But after the suppression of the order, it was given, in the ninth year of Henry the Fifth, to the priory of Mountgrace; and as parcel of the possessions of this last mentioned monastery, this manor of Long Bennington was granted to the dean and chapter of Westminster, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the Eighth\*.

ASWARDHURN WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Asgarby, Aswarby, Aunsby, Burton Pedwardine, Culverthorpe, Ewerby, Evedon, Hale Great, Hale Little, Heckington, Helpringham, Howell, Ingoldsby, Kelby, Kirkby Laythorpe, Quarrington, Screddington, Sempringham, Silk Willoughby, Steaford Old township, South Kyme, and Swarby.*

BURTON PEDWARDINE formed part of the large estates of Alan de Crean, or Craon, who was of the noble family of Anjou, and the most illustrious in France of those who came into England with William the Conqueror. Of this family Stukeley has given a genealogy, commencing with *Andrew de Craon*, who lived about A. D. 940. The estate, by marriage, came to Roger de Pedwardine the second, who rebuilt the church, and St. Mary's chapel on the north side; but the south aile, and St. Nicholas's chapel, were built at the expence of the parish.

At INGOLDSBY is a circular encampment, which compre-

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hends

\* Notitia Monastica.



bends an area of about 500 feet in diameter. Here are some tumuli, called the *Round Hills*.

The church of ASWABY has an elegant tower and spire; and adjoining the village is the mansion and park of Sir Christopher Whichcote, Bart.

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WINNIBRIGGS AND THREO WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Allington, Borrowby, Boothby Pagnell, Harrowby, Haydor, Honington, Humby Little* hamlet, *Ponton Little, Ropsley, Sedgebrook, Somerby, Spittlegate, Haughton* and *Walton* hamlets, *Stoke North* hamlet, *Stroxton, Syston, Welby, Wilsford, Woolsthorpe*, and *Wywell and Hungerton*.

At LITTLE PONTON various Roman remains have been discovered at different periods. In this village is a handsome modern mansion, begun by the late Lord Witherington, who built the south side. Additions were made by Mr. Day, who bequeathed it to Mr. Prettyman; the latter gentleman erected the west front; and it is now the residence of his son, William Prettyman, Esq. The house, which is handsomely built of stone, though erected at different times, preserves an uniformity of plan, and is situated on a fine lawn, surrounded by plantations of luxuriant growth. About a mile from the village of

HONINGTON, is a small *Roman* summer camp, which was defended by a double foss and vallum. Near it vast quantities of coins, contained in urns, have been found.

ROPSLEY is famous for having been the birth-place of *Richard Fox*, Bishop of Winchester, who built and endowed the free school of Grantham, from which circumstance he is said, by the author of "*The Magna Britannia*," to have been a native of  
that

that town. He received his education in the university of Cambridge, and became president of Pembroke Hall, to which seminary, on his demise, he bequeathed some curious hangings of tapestry, with a *fox* interwoven in the pattern. Removing from college to the court, he commenced politician, and soon made a distinguished figure. He was not only instrumental in establishing the claim of King Henry the Seventh to the kingdom, but also continued to be one of his principal cabinet ministers after he was settled on the throne. For these eminent services the prince rewarded him by preferment to the valuable bishopric of Winchester. But in his exaltation he appears either to have forgotten, or purposely overlooked, his *alma mater*; for he bestowed a portion of his great wealth in founding Corpus Christi College in Oxford. He continued in the see twenty-seven years, and was buried in his own cathedral. At the village of

WOOLSTHORPE, near Belvoir Castle, about forty years ago, under an idea that coal might underlay this part of the country, the Duke of Rutland had the ground bored to the depth of 169 feet, where a stratum of *soft coal*, fourteen inches thick, was discovered. The miners bored deeper, but without further success. They again bored at *Braunston*, three miles to the west, to the depth of 469 feet, but no coal was found; nor did the strata appear similar to that at Woolsthorpe.

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GRANTHAM, with the SOKE, contains the parishes of *Barkstone, Braceby, Belton, Colsterworth, Denton, Easton hamlet, Grantham, Gonerby Great, Harlaxton, Londonthorpe, Manthorpe, Ponton Great, Sapperton, and Stoke South*, alias *Stoke Rochford*.

## GRANTHAM,

A market and borough town, is the principal place in the soke, or wapentake, to which it gives name, and over which it exercises exclusive jurisdiction. In Stowe's Chronicle, Grantham is said to have been built by Gorbomannus, King of Britain, 303 years prior to the Christian æra. Such stories are entitled to little credit; but it appears from history, that Grantham possessed peculiar privileges at an early period, and was the residence of a suffragan bishop\*. At the time of the Norman survey, this place was held in royal demesne; for in Domesday Book it is recorded, that Editha, Queen of Edward the Confessor, had a manor in Grantham, and twelve carucates at Geld. Maud, William the Conqueror's Queen, held the town and soke as part of the king's demesne. In the forty-second year of King Henry the Third, that monarch being greatly distressed by the parliament, which refused to grant him supplies, among other plans for raising money, mortgaged, to his uncle, William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, the towns of Grantham and Stamford.

Near the point, where a small stream, called the *Mowbeak*, joins the Witham, formerly stood the *castle*; but no traces of the building remain: and the only evidence that the town had a castle, arises from the adjoining street being called *Castlegate*; and the description in ancient deeds of certain tenements, which belonged to the chantry of St. Mary, as situated in *Castle Dyke*. The names of the three other principal streets of the present town, called Westgate, Watergate, and Swinegate, evidently denote that Grantham was once encompassed with a wall, but no vestiges of it are now to be seen. On the 22d of March, 1642, this place was taken, for King Charles the First, by the forces under the command of Colonel Charles Cavendish, who made

360

\* This ecclesiastical officer was appointed to assist the bishop of the diocese, and called by Sir Edward Coke, "a bishop's vicegerent."



360 prisoners, with all the captains and officers, together with three loads of arms and ammunition, and afterwards demolished the works\*.

"About this time," says De Foe, "it was, that we began to hear of the name of *Oliver Cromwell*, who, like a little cloud, rose out of the east, and spread first into the north, till it shed down a flood that overwhelmed the three kingdoms. When the war first broke out, he was a private captain of horse, but now commanded a regiment; and joining with the Earl of Manchester, the first action in which we heard of his exploits, and which emblazoned his character, was at *Grantham*, where, with only his own regiment, he defeated twenty-four troops of horse and dragoons of the king's forces†."

Near the south entrance into the town, on *St. Peter's*‡ hill, formerly stood an elegant *Cross*, erected by King Edward the First, in memory of Eleanor his queen, who died 1290, this being one of the places where the corpse was laid in state, in its way for interment in Westminster Abbey. *Grantham* had several *religious houses*, ruins of which may still be seen. A *priory* of *grey* friars, called also franciscans, from the founder of their order, and *minorites* from their assumed humility, was founded here A. D. 1290. "The *Angel Inn*, which took its name from some representations of angels cut in stone, with several other religious devices about the building, was a commandery of the Knights Templars§." The front of this inn displays some curious grotesque ornaments, and has three projections, with mullioned windows, &c.

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The

\* *Mercurius Belgicus*.† *Memoirs of a Cavalier*.

‡ "Of the church dedicated to St. Peter, said to have stood here, I have not been able to find any traces, except the mention made of the chantry of St. Peter, in *Grantham*." *Turnor's Collections for the History of the Town and Soke of Grantham*.

§ *Turnor's Collections*, &c. p. 37.

The following notices are contained in an index written by Bishop Sanderson. "Spittlegate hospital, 2 Edward IV. Richard Bloer, master. 13 Henry VII. Mr. Thomas Isham, master of the hospital of St. Leonard, otherwise called rector of the parochial church of Spital\*."

In the present church, and in that of St. Peter's were five chapels, respectively dedicated to Corpus Christi, St. John, St. George, the Blessed Virgin, and the Holy Trinity. The two latter of which were given by King Edward the Sixth for the further endowment of a free school. The Church, consisting of a nave with spacious north and south aisles, and lighted by large handsome pointed windows, is celebrated for the elegance of its spire. At what time the present church was built is not recorded. The style of architecture is that prevalent in the thirteenth century; though Mr. Gough observes, that it was endowed by Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, A. D. 1100. The crypt under the south aisle of the church, now used as a charnel house, is the most ancient part of the building, and probably formed part of the former church, which was endowed as above described. The church underwent considerable repairs in 1628, the estimates of which amounted to 1450*l*. In 1651 the top of the steeple was blown down, and rebuilt by subscription, as appears by a table, containing a list of benefactors on that occasion, placed in the church. In 1797 it suffered by lightening, which displaced a stone on the south side, and broke off two or three of the crockets, which fell through the roof into the church. This elegant part of the fabric consists of a quadrangular tower, containing three stories, the first of which is lighted by one mullioned window on each side; the second by pairs of windows, with pointed arches; and the third by one large window, with two smaller lateral ones, having triangular heads. At each angle of the parapet, which is pierced with quatrefoils, is an hexangular crocketed pinnacle. Over this, in beautiful proportion, rises its octagonal spire, ornamented

\* Sanderson's Index, p. 629, as quoted by Turnor.

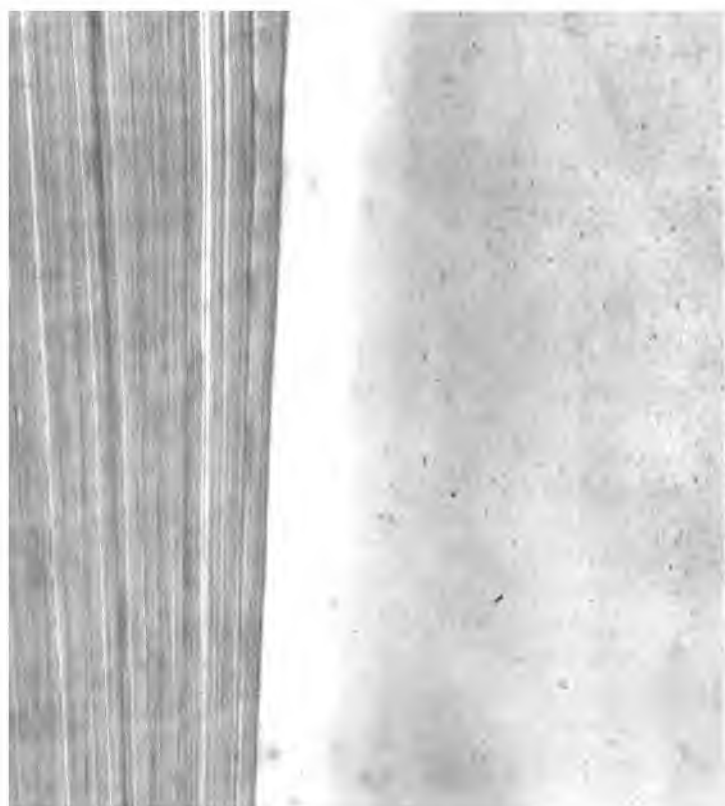


GRANTAM CHURCH No. 6.  
From the J. L.  
Lincolnshire

Engraved by George J. Bennett from a drawing by J. L. Lincolnshire

See the Beauties of England and Wales





namented with crockets on the angles, and at three several distances, encircled with windows, having triangular heads. The height of the tower, to the battlements, is 135 feet, and thence to the top of the weathercock 138, making together 273 feet. The nave, or choir, as it is called, including the chancel and side ailes, measures in length, inside, one hundred and sixteen feet, and eighty feet in breadth.

Within the church are several handsome monuments to the memory of different families of distinction. One to *Sir Thomas Bury, Knight*, Lord chief Baron of the Exchequer in the time of George the First. A sumptuous marble monument, with the figure of justice, and a medallion representing *Lord Chief Justice Ryder*, who died May 5th, 1756, a day before the patent could pass by a warrant issued for the purpose of creating him Baron Harrowby. A magnificent monument, consisting of a pyramid of blue marble, and a sarcophagus of white, and a bust ornamented with various naval trophies, with the arms of Cust, to the memory of *William Cust, Esq.* "a brave and judicious sea officer, who having signalized himself in a series of dangerous and successful enterprizes, was unfortunately killed by a cannon ball, March 8th, 1747; erected by his uncle, the late Right Honourable Viscount Tyrconnel."

The *font* in this church is a handsome specimen of ancient sculpture. It stands upon a pedestal of two steps. The shape is octangular. The base of the shaft is ornamented with beads and alternate roses. On the shaft are statues of various saints placed in niches; and round the font, under crocketed canopies, many figures in basso relievo. These are intended to represent the seven sacraments.

The vestry has been fitted up to receive a large number of books, which were left by the will of the late Rev. John Newcome, D. D. Master of St. John's College, Cambridge. He was a native of Grantham, and bequeathed them as a public library, for the use of the inhabitants in the town and neighbourhood.

In the church of Grantham were founded two vicarages, distinguished by the names of North and South Grantham, to the former of which were annexed the livings of North Gunnerby and Londonthorpe, and to the latter South Gunnerby and Braceby. These are in the patronage of two prebendaries, who bear the same names in the cathedral church of Salisbury; and were granted to that church by a charter of Bishop Osmund, dated the 5th of April, 1091, at Hastings; where it was confirmed by William Rufus, in the fourth year of his reign. The want of houses for the residence of the vicars was supplied by the pious bequest of Bishop Saunderson, and the two vicarages, with their profits, were consolidated in 1714, under the name of "the united vicarage of Grantham;" from which time the two prebendaries were to have the alternate right of presentation.

Grantham was first incorporated under a charter granted by King Edward the Fourth, A. D. 1463. The jurisdiction of the corporation extends over the whole soke, and "the general sessions of the peace for the town and soke, are held by warrant of the alderman, directed to the bailiff of the liberties, who acts as sheriff of the town and soke, the sheriff of the county having no authority within the soke and district thereof\*."

The *guild-hall* was rebuilt under an act obtained for the purpose in the year 1787, by a rate levied upon the soke; in addition to which the Duke of Rutland and Lord Brownlow gave each 300l. to erect a large apartment for the occasional accommodation of the corporation, and to serve as an assembly-room for the use of the town.

A *free school* was founded here by Richard Fox, Bishop of Winchester, and further endowed by King Edward the Sixth with the possessions of two dissolved chantries. The school-house of stone attracts attention, from the circumstance of its having been a place of education to that astonishing genius, Sir Isaac Newton, who here studied the classics for several years.

Grantham

\* Turnor's Collections for the History of the Town, &c.



Grantham sends two members to the British senate, has a weekly market on Saturdays, and five annual fairs. From the returns under the population act, the number of houses is 651, occupied by 3,303 inhabitants.

Without Spittlegate, at what is termed *Grantham Spaw*, a salutary spring rises out of sandy ground, the water of which is a mild chalybeate, contains a small portion of ærated iron, and is specifically lighter than common spring water.

A *Canal* has lately been cut from Grantham to the river Trent, an extent of twenty-five miles. It is supplied with water by means of large *reservoirs* made for the purpose. The *level line* from Grantham to Woolsthorpe Point is supplied by a reservoir, which covers twenty-seven acres of land, in the parishes of Denton and Harlaxton. This is fed by the flood waters of Denton rivulet. The other part of the line, from Woolsthorpe Point to the Trent, has a fall of one hundred and forty feet, and is supplied by a reservoir, comprising fifty-two acres, at Knipton. In 1798 the sum of 114,734*l.* had been expended on the undertaking; at which time the tonnage amounted to 4381*l.* since that period it has annually averaged more. The chief articles conveyed by this navigation are corn and coals.

BELTON HOUSE, two miles north of Grantham, the residence of Lord Brownlow, is situated on a beautiful lawn, in a finely wooded valley, through which flows the river Witham. The reversion of the manor and estate of Belton, after the death of Sir Henry Pakenham and Jane his wife, was purchased by Richard Brownlow, chief prothonotary in the court of common pleas, in the year 1620. The present mansion house was begun by Sir John Brownlow, Bart. in the year 1685, from designs, it is conjectured, of Sir Christopher Wren, and finished in 1689. The form of the building, like many houses of the same period, is that of the letter H; which, though not approved of by modern architects, possesses considerable advantages in point of convenience and utility. The house, built of stone, presents four uniform

uniform elevations, without any architectural decorations. The apartments are numerous, lofty, and well-proportioned. Several are ornamented with excellent carving by Gibbons, and the chapel is wainscotted with cedar.

In the year 1776, the late Lord Brownlow employed that distinguished architect, James Wyatt, Esq. to make improvements in the building. By his direction a cupola and balustrade were removed from the roof; the drawing-room, which measures forty feet by twenty-seven, was raised to the height of twenty-two feet, and a new entrance was added at the south front. In several of the apartments are many good pictures by eminent masters, of the Flemish and Italian schools, with numerous family portraits by Lely, Kneller, Reynolds, Romney, and others. Amongst them is a peculiarly fine one of Sir JOHN CUST, Bart. Speaker of the House of Commons, in his robes, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; a half length copy of which by Ruysen, a present of the late Lord Brownlow, is in the state apartments of the Speaker of the House of Commons. The founder of this stately fabric had the honour of a visit from King William the Third, who, on his progress through the northern countries, was entertained at Belton house the 29th of October, 1695. Previous to that event he had obtained, in 1690, a licence of the king and queen, to form a park of his lands in Belton, Londonthorpe, and Telthorpe, which he enclosed with a wall five miles in circumference, and at the same time he made numerous plantations; the trees of which, now become large timber, are highly ornamental to the place. His nephew, Sir John Brownlow, K.B. created 1718 Viscount Tyrconnel, fitted up the library with a choice and valuable collection of books, and formed gardens of great extent and magnificence in the prevailing taste of that age; these have since been modernized and laid out in a style more congenial with rural scenery.

The church at Belton is a small ancient structure\*. The tower

\* The arches of the nave and the font are probably of the 11th century.

The manor and advowson were, at the dissolution of monasteries, in the possession of St. Mary's Abbey in the City of York.

tower has on it the date 1637, at which time it was re-built by Richard Brownlow, Esq. The chancel also was re-built by Dame Alicia Brownlow, who died 1721. The church is kept extremely neat, and in the south window are six pieces of modern stained glass, representing parts of scripture history. Within the nave and chancel are many fine monuments to the memory of the families of Brownlow and Cust.

At the village of DENTON, anciently spelt DENTUNE, was discovered in the year 1727, a *mosaic pavement*. It lay about eighteen inches beneath the surface, and was composed of white, red, and blue tessellæ; forming a pattern, which consisted of squares and lozenges. The lozenges were ornamented with chequer work, and the squares with gordian knots; it measured about thirty feet square. This formed the floor of a room, which Dr. Stukeley, who examined the place, supposed was the site of a Roman villa. A view of this pavement has been engraved by Mr. Fowler, who discovered part of another pavement, eight feet square, composed of similar colours, but of a richer pattern: this is also engraved in his "collection of Roman pavements." Near this place passes a Roman vicinal way, called *Salter's road*.

On the Denton estate is a *spring* of very pure water, similar to that of *Malvern Wells* in Worcestershire. The spring is much frequented, and many medical virtues are ascribed to its waters.

The church is a small structure, and contains some monuments to the Williams's, the Welby's, and the Cholmley's. An almshouse was erected and endowed by William Welby, Esq. in the year 1653, for six poor persons, who have a weekly allowance in money, and an annual allowance for coals. Eastward of the church is a school-house, which is endowed for twenty-four poor children. Formerly there were three families of distinction in this parish, the Thorold's, the Williams's, and the Welby's. Some remains of houses belonging to the former are still standing in the village. The Welby's came from Gedney, in the division of Holland,



Holland, in which church are several ancient monuments to the memory of the family.

DENTON HOUSE is the property and residence of Sir William Earle Welby, Bart. M. P. The mansion, which is a large handsome building in the modern style, has received considerable additions from the proprietor. It stands on a fine elevation, in a well planted park, which is generally, and deservedly admired for the pleasing irregularity of the ground, and for the fine woods and water with which it is highly ornamented.

In the western corner of this Soke, eight miles south of Grantham, is the village of COLSTERWORTH, which will ever be celebrated in the records of history, for having given birth to that great luminary in the hemisphere of science, SIR ISAAC NEWTON. Of whom it may be more justly said, than of any person who has either preceded or followed him :

“ *Ergo vivida vis animi pervicit et extra  
Processit longe flammanitia mœnia mundi  
Atque omne immensum peragravit mente animoque.*”

Lucretius, Lib. 1.

Isaac Newton was born at the manor house of *Woolsthorpe*, a hamlet in this parish, on Christmas-day 1642; about three months after the death of his father, who was a descendant from the elder branch of the family of John Newton, Bart. and was lord of this manor. When a child, Isaac lived with his maternal Grandmother Aiscough, and went to two small day schools, at Skillington, and Stoke, till he was twelve years of age. At which time he was sent to the free grammar-school of Grantham, where, under the tuition of Mr. Stokes, he shewed a partiality for mechanics, and displayed early tokens of that uncommon genius, which afterwards “ filled, or rather comprehended the world.” After continuing at Grantham a few years,

years, his mother took him home, for the purpose of managing his own estate; but his exalted mind could not brook such an occupation, and he returned again to school. Soon afterwards he went to Cambridge, where he was admitted into Trinity College the fifth of June, 1660. The first books he read with his college tutor, were *Sanderson's Logic* and *Kepler's Optics*. A desire to discover, whether there was any truth in the pretensions of judicial astrology, a science then popular, induced him to study mathematics. And having discovered its fallacy, in a figure he raised for the purpose, from a few Problems in Euclid, he ever after discarded the contemptible study. He however at that time turned aside Euclid, looking upon it as a book containing nothing but obvious truths, and applied himself to the study of Descarte's Geometry. To try some experiments on the doctrine of colours, advanced by that philosopher, he purchased a prism, in the year 1664; when he discovered the hypothesis to be erroneous, and at the same time laid the foundation of his own theory of light and colours. About that period he discovered the method of *infinite calculus*, or *Fluxions*; the invention of which was claimed by Leibnitz, although it has been proved\*, that the "Lecaleul differential" was borrowed from the English philosopher. In the year 1665, having retired to his own estate, on account of the plague, the falling of an apple from a tree in his garden first suggested his system of gravity. And it is a singular case, that he laid the foundations of nearly all his discoveries before he was twenty-four years of age; and communicated them in loose tracts and letters to the Royal Society. Of those an ample account is given in the "*Commercium Epistolicum*." In 1667 he was elected fellow of his own college, and Dr. Barrow resigned the professorship of mathematics to him in 1669. In 1671 he was elected fellow of the Royal Society. In 1688 he was returned by the University of Cambridge to the Convention Parliament, in which he sate till its dissolution. The Earl of Halifax, then Chancellor

\* "*Commercium Epistolicum, D. Johannis Collins, et aliorum de Analysi præmata: jussu Societatis Regiæ in lucem editum, 4to. Londini, 1712.*"

Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a great patron of learning, obtained for him the appointment of Warden of the Mint. This afforded him frequent opportunities of employing his time and skill in mathematics and chemistry; and occasioned him to produce his table of "Assays of foreign Coins," printed at the end of Dr. Arbuthnot's "Book of Coins." In 1697, he received from *Bernoulli* a celebrated Problem, which was intended to puzzle all the mathematicians in Europe; but our philosopher solved it in a few hours. In 1699, he was made "Master and Worker of the Mint;" and in 1701 he appointed Mr. Whiston his deputy in the Mathematical Chair at Cambridge, allowing him the whole emoluments for the performance of its duties: though he did not resign the professorship till 1703; in which year he was chosen President of the Royal Society. This situation he held till his death, which happened the 21st of March 1726-7. He had previously received the honour of knighthood from Queen Anne, at Cambridge, in the year 1705. Sir Isaac was of the middle stature, of a comely aspect, temperate in his diet, and of a meek disposition. He was courteous and affable; and modesty and generosity were eminently conspicuous in his character. He was never married, and the manor and estate descended to the heir at law, Mr. John Newton, who sold it to the family of Turnor, of Stoke Rochford; and is now the property of Edmund Turnor, Esq. of that place\*. The manor-house is still standing.

" Here NEWTON dawn'd, here lofty wisdom woke,  
And to a wondering world divinely spoke.  
If Tully glow'd, when Phœdrus' steps he trod,  
Or fancy formed philosophy a God;  
If sages still for Homer's birth contend,  
The sons of science at this dome must bend.  
All hail the shrine! all hail the natal day;  
Cam boasts his noon, this cot his morning ray."

HARLAXTON,

\* Memoirs of Sir Isaac Newton, sent by Mr. Conduitt, to Monsieur Fontenelle, in 1727, and published in Turnor's "Collections for a History of the Town and Soke of Grantham."



HARLAXTON, a small village, situated on the turnpike-road leading from Grantham to Melton, and three miles distant from the former place, has a handsome church with a beautiful spire. Some of the windows are singular in their form, having circular heads, each contained within a square label. The manor, and principal part of the property of Harlaxton, belonged in the time of Henry the Seventh to a family of the name of *Blewitt*; one of whom it is supposed built the old and curious *Manor House*. This underwent many alterations by a subsequent possessor, Sir Samuel de Ligne. The house is built of stone, and on the south side it is guarded by a broad and deep moat, with a bridge over it. The entrance into the outer court is by an arched gateway, and the inner court is separated from the outer by a handsome balustrade. Some of the windows are pointed, and others have square labeled heads. The grand gallery, which is one hundred feet in length, fourteen wide, and eleven feet high; and the dining room, which is forty feet by thirty-one, were superbly fitted up; and the windows richly decorated with painted glass, by Sir Daniel de Ligne. In the great bow windows are coats of arms of de Ligne, de la Fontaine, de Cordes, and other relations of the de Ligne family, who emigrated together, and became refugees in this country. In other windows are emblematical devices, and representations of events, recorded in scriptural and profane history. Several fine portraits of the *de Ligne* and *Lister* families, executed by *Cornelius Janssen*, are here preserved. One of these, which has excited particular interest, is that of *Susanna Lady Lister*, painted in her wedding dress, by C. Janssen, 1626, when Lady Thornhurst. She was considered the most distinguished beauty of her time, and was presented in marriage to Sir Geoffry Thornhurst, by King James the First, in person. The present proprietor, who is lord of the manor, is George de Ligne Gregory, Esq. In the year 1740, an *Urn* was found here, it contained burnt bones and coins of Gallienus, a Claudius Gothicus, and of other emperors, with a seal inscribed, "*Sigillum comitatus Cantabrigiæ*." In the fields near

this village, near the mansion, as a man was ploughing, he discovered a stone, and under it a brass pot, in which was a *helmet of gold*, set with jewels; and also silver beads, and “*corrupted writings\**.” The helmet, supposed to have formerly belonged to John of Gaunt, who had a hunting seat here, was presented to Catharine, Dowager Queen of Henry the Eighth, and deposited afterwards in the cabinet of Madrid.

GREAT PONTON, or PAUNTON, an ancient village, is situated on the river Witham, three miles and a half south of Grantham, and near the Ermine-Street. In this place, and at *Little Ponton*, an adjacent village, have been found numerous Roman coins, urns, bricks, mosaic pavements, arches, and vaults. Stukeley observes, that this “*must needs be the CAUSENNIS.*” With this opinion Salmon coincided, and agreed with him to place the OLD PONT-EM at east *Bridgford*, in Nottinghamshire. But Horsley fixes it at Southwell. Ponton has probably been a station, though it does not appear to fall under any one mentioned in the Itinerary. “*The fosse way, partly paved with blue flag stones laid on edge, runs by this place from Newark to Leicester†.*” The Church, which is a fine building, was, according to Leland, completed A. D. 1519, at the expence of Anthony Ellis, Esq. merchant of the staple, who lies interred in the chancel; and whose arms are represented on the different parts of the steeple, with the motto, “*Thynke, and thanke God of all.*” It is justly admired for its proportion, has eight ornamental pinnacles at top, and is seventy-eight feet high.

Six miles south of Grantham is STOKES ROCHFORD, or SOUTH STOKES. Its church, which serves for the parishes of Stoke Rochford, North Stoke, and Easton, Bishop Sanderson describes as fair and well built, having “*a chancel with three quires and*  
goodly

\* Leland's Itin. Vol. I. fol. 31.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 256.



goodly windows, and sundry monuments." A handsome marble monument records the ancestors of the *Turnor* family, proprietors of this place; and a very elegant throne, with four kneeling figures in the habit of the times, was erected here by Montague Cholmeley, Esq. A. D. 1641: a descendant of whom, of the same name, has a mansion in the hamlet of Easton.

On a brass plate, fixed on a marble slab, in the floor of the chancel, is this inscription:

"Pray for the soll of mastyr Olyr. Sentseln, squier, sonne unto ye right excellent hie, and mightty pryncess of Somsete gndame unto oū soveyn Lord Kynge Herre the VII. and for the soll of dame Elizabeth Bygod his wiff, whoo dep̄ted from this f̄nsitore liffe ye xii. day of June, ī ȳ year of oū Lord M,CCCC and III." The family of St. John, ancestors of the present Lord Bolingbroke, was connected by marriage with that of Rochford, and formerly resided here.

STOKE HOUSE, the residence of Edmund Turnor, Esq. was built in the year 1794, out of materials belonging to an old mansion house, erected by Sir Edward Turnor, about the middle of the seventeenth century. The park is small, but abounds with picturesque features, and in it is a pleasing small cascade, formed by the water of a single spring\*.

An handsome stone building in this village, containing six sets of apartments for six poor persons, who have a weekly allowance in money, and an annual allowance for coals, was erected and endowed in the year 1777, by Sir Edmund Turnor; no less eminent for his loyalty, than he was exemplary by his charities. He took part with Charles the First, and in the year 1651 he was captain.

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\* The great spring at Holywell, in Flintshire, is supposed to throw out twenty-one tons of water in a minute. This, in Stoke park, discharges nineteen tons in a minute. They both come out of Limestone, and never freeze. *Pennant's Hist. of Holywell*, p. 225 as quoted by Mr. Turnor, in his collection.



of horse, and taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester. As a reward for his services, he was appointed to several lucrative offices, and knighted in 1663.

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AVELAND WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Aslackby, Billingborough, Birthorpe, Bourne, Dembleby, Dowsby, Dunsby, Dyke and Canthorpe* hamlet, *Folkingham, Haceby, Hacconby, Horbling, Kirkby-Under-wood, Laughton, Morton, Newton, Osbournby, Pickworth, Pointon, Rappingale, Spanby, Swaton, Threckingham cum Stow, Walcot, and Willoughby Scott.*

In the village of ASLACKBY was a Commandry of Knights Templars, founded by John le Marechal, about the time of Richard the First. It was subsequently occupied by the hospitallers; and at the suppression the site was granted to Edward Lord Clinton. A farm-house, where formerly stood the circular church, still retains the appellation of the *temple*. A square embattled tower, consisting of two stories, yet remains. The lower story is vaulted, and the vault is composed of eight groins. In the centre, where these meet, are eight shields, with various coats of arms, and the middle one is charged with a cross. Round the outside of the tower, near the top, are several large brackets. The parish church, at a small distance on the opposite side of the road, is a large handsome building, having a square embattled tower at the west end.

Here formerly stood a Castle, which is said to have been built by one of the Wakes. But in this, both Camden and the Author of the *Magna Britannia* were mistaken. For a castle appears to have existed here as early as the year 1062, before the Wakes possessed the manor. Leland observed, that in his time "there appeared great ditches, and the dungeon-hill at the west end of the priory, also much service of the Wakes' fee was done to it; and that every fadary knew his station and place of service." The building is entirely destroyed, but the earth works on the west side

are

are nearly entire. The area within the outer moat is about eight acres; between the moat and ditch are very large irregular works, on the north and west sides. They consist of raised banks about twenty yards in length, and ten in breadth, with a ditch between each.

## BOURNE, OR BURN,

Is a market town, situated in a flat country adjoining the fens. Contiguous to the town is a large spring, which discharges a sufficient quantity of water to supply three mills near its source. The earliest notice on record respecting this place is in the time of the Saxons, when Camden states, on the authority of Leland, that it was notable for the inauguration of Edmund, King of the East Angles, A. D. 838. This, however, is proved to be an error, by Mr. Gough, who says, that the Saxon monarch was crowned at a place called Buers in Suffolk. Ingulphus, after noticing several benefactions to the Abbey of Croyland, says, "Leofric, lord of the castle of *Brunn*, a famous and valiant soldier, kinsman to the great Count Radin, who married King Edward's sister Godo, gave many possessions to this abbey; and on many occasions assisted the monks with his counsel and favour\*. This Leofric had a son Werward possessed of the *castle* and estates of Burn or Brunn, who dying without issue, they were presented by William Rufus to Walter Eitzgilbert, or Fitzgislebert†." Baldwin, Lord Wake, in the eighth year of King Edward the First, A. D. 1279, obtained a licence for a market weekly on Saturdays, and one annual fair. This was a life grant, as the same privilege was conferred on the place at the request of Thomas Lord Wake, his grandson, in the second year of Edward the Second.

An abbey was founded here by Baldwin, son of Baldwin Fitz-

3 D 3

gislebert,

\* History of Croyland, folio 899.

† Bishop Gibson's Edition of Camden, p. 462.



gislebert, to whom the castle was granted about the year 1138, who placed in it an abbot and canons of the Augustine order. According to Dugdale, its annual revenues amounted, at the dissolution, to the sum of 167l. 14s. 6d. per annum.

The Church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a handsome building, and formerly had two large square towers at the west end, one of which is nearly down. The church consists of a lofty chancel, a nave, with side ailes, and a short transept on the south side. The nave is separated from the ailes by circular plain arches, springing from large columns, exhibiting a specimen of the early Norman style. At the west door is a piscina and pointed arcades, over which are two lancet windows, and a large window, having four mullions, with tracery. On the outside of the south porch is another piscina.

Bourne contains a meeting-house for protestant dissenters; also two almshouses, each endowed with 30l. per annum, one for six poor men, and the other for six poor women. Here is also a free school, with a salary for the master of 30l. per annum.

This town has twice suffered severely by fire. The first occurring on the 25th of August, 1605, by which was destroyed that part of the town called Manor-Street, not leaving a single house standing. Again, on the 25th of March, 1637, another fire destroyed the greater part of Eastgate, or as it is written in records, *Eaugate*.

In the centre of the market place is an ancient *town-hall*, said to have been erected by one of the Wake family; but from the arms of Cecil, carved in baso relievo over the centre of the east front, it is more probable that it was built by the treasurer, Lord Burleigh. The petty sessions for the parts of Kesteven are regularly held here at Michaelmas and Christmas.

In this town a few Roman coins have been dug up, and, about fifty years ago, a *tessellated pavement* was discovered in the park grounds.

In a farm yard, within the town, is a medicinal spring, much frequented, the waters of which have a brackish taste, and a purgative



purgative quality; very similar in their effects, but of greater strength than those of Astrop, in the county of Northampton.

A Canal has been made hence to Boston, for boats of ten tons burden. By means of this navigation some mercantile business is carried on; but the chief trade of the place is wool-stapling and tanning leather. The market, which is but little frequented, is held on Saturdays, and the town has four fairs annually. The number of houses, by the returns under the population act, were 282, of inhabitants 1,474.

That eminent statesman, and exalted character, WILLIAM CECIL, Baron Burleigh, whose loyalty to his sovereign, and unbiassed patriotism, preserved the religious establishment and civil polity of this kingdom from falling a prey to despotic tyranny and papal superstition, was a native of this place. He was born at the house of his grandfather, David Cecil, Esq. in the year 1520. In 1535 he was admitted of St. John's College, in the university of Cambridge, where, at the early age of fifteen, he read a lecture on sophistry; and at the age of nineteen he gave a Greek lecture. After leaving college he applied himself to the study of the law; and in the year 1547, having been made master of requests, he, in the following year, partook of the disgrace which fell on the Lord Protector Somerset, with whom he was sent to the Tower. After suffering three months imprisonment, he was released, reinstated in his office, received the honour of knighthood, and was chosen a member of the privy council. In 1553 he was appointed chancellor to the order of the garter, with an annual fee of 100 marks. On the death of Edward the Sixth, Sir William Cecil prudently declined taking any part in the business, which terminated fatally for Lord Dudley, and his unfortunate consort, the Lady Jane Grey. On the accession of Queen Mary he was graciously received at court; but refusing to change his religion, he was dismissed from his employments. On Queen Elizabeth's succeeding to the throne in 1558, the cloud was quickly dispelled which had lately obscured both his fortune and fame. A few days after her

accession he was sworn one of her privy council, became her chief cabinet minister, and made secretary of state. In 1561 he received the appointment of master of the wards; and in 1571 he was created *Baron Lord Burleigh*. The following year he was honoured with the order of the garter, and raised to the office of lord high treasurer of England, which distinguished situation he held twenty-seven years, performing its duties with credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of his sovereign and the country. Having thus filled some of the most important situations, and guided the helm of state during the most critical and glorious period of English history, he departed this life on the 4th of August, 1598, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. His remains were removed to the burial place at Stamford, where a most magnificent monumental tomb was erected to his memory. To those acquainted with the history of their country any eulogium on him would be superfluous. Suffice it to add, that Camden, in his *Annals*, observes, "He was one of those few who lived and died with equal glory. Such a man as, while others regard with admiration, I, after the ancient manner, rather contemplate with silent and religious veneration\*."

The Rev. Dr. WILLIAM DODD was also a native of Bourne, where he was born in 1729. His father was vicar of this parish, and brought up this son to the church; which he lived to honour by his eloquence and erudition, and to disgrace by his fatal propensity to gallantry and fashionable dissipation. Never, perhaps, was there a clergyman whose manners and writings obtained greater patronage and admiration; yet a single act of injustice involved him in ruin, and brought him to an untimely end. Having committed a forgery on Lord Chesterfield for the sum of 4200*l.* he was arrested, committed to Newgate, tried, and convicted; and though the most powerful influence was exerted in his behalf, and various modes of preserving his life was employed, he was doomed to suffer death at Tyburn, June 27, 1777.

## FOLKINGHAM

\* *Annales Elizabethæ, Anno 1598.*



## FOLKINGHAM

Is a small town, pleasantly situated on the side and summit of a hill, abounding with springs. The church stands at the N.W. end of the town, and consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, chancel and porch, with a room over it, and has a handsome lofty stone tower, crowned with eight crocketed pinnacles.

The manor of Folkingham was given, by the Conqueror, to Gilbert de Gaunt, who came over with him from Normandy, and eminently distinguished himself at the decisive battle of Hastings: for which service William, when he came to the throne, amply rewarded him. For in the Domesday Book it appears, that besides forty-one other lordships which Gilbert was seized of in different counties, he possessed *one hundred and thirty-one* in Lincolnshire, of which Folkingham was one. This place he made his seat, and constituted it the head of the barony. A descendant of Gilbert de Gaunt, who died without issue, 2d of January, 1274, appointed King Edward the First his heir to the manor and lands of this barony. They were, by that monarch, granted, for eminent services, to Henry de Bellomonte, or Beaumont, who was usually called "Consanguineus Regis." In the family of the Bellomontes the manor continued till the time of Henry the Seventh. After that period it came into the family of the Duke of Norfolk; but being forfeited by the attainder of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, it was granted by King Edward the Sixth, in exchange for lands in the county of Worcester, to the family of Clinton. Here was formerly a Castle, probably built by Henry de Bellomonte. "From Grims-thorpe to Sempringham five miles; and a mile thence, somewhat inward, is the castle of Fokingham, sometime the Lord Bardolfe's, since the Lord Bellomonte's, now longing to the Duke of Norfolk. It hath been a goodly house, but it now falleth to ruin, and standeth even about the edge of the fens\*." Even  
the

\* Leland's Itin. Vol. I. f. 25.



the ruins have disappeared; and the only remains to mark where once the castle stood, are the moats and mounds on the eastern side of the town.

Folkingham has a weekly market on Thursdays, and eight annual fairs. The resident population, by the returns made to government in 1801, was 531, the number of houses 100.

South-east of the town is a large *Encampment*, with a deep foss and lofty vallum. Within the area is a square keep of raised earth, defended also by a foss capable of being filled with water from the adjoining brook. Without the area, at the north-east corner, is a small fortified enclosure, intended as an advanced work to secure the water for the use of the garrison.

SEMPRINGHAM, about three miles east-south-east of Folkingham, is noted in the monastical annals of England, for giving birth to *Sir Gilbert de Sempringham*, who founded a novel religious order, and settled it at his native place. Gilbert was the eldest son of a Norman knight, and was sent to France for education. Returning thence, he took orders, and obtained great preferments; being presented to the churches of Tissingden and Sempringham, and appointed chaplain to the Bishop of Lincoln. Having devoted himself wholly to a religious life, he obtained leave of Pope Eugenius III. in the year 1148, to institute a new order of monks, to be called *Gilbertines*. The singularity of the plan adopted by, and the reputed piety of the first recluse, soon attracted the attention of others, and induced numbers of both sexes to join the society. For their reception Gilbert employed his large estate in building a house, and settling on the institution an adequate endowment. The rules laid down for the regulation of the order were—1. That the nuns should follow the rules of St. Benedict, and the monks the rules of St. Augustin.—2. That the men should live in a separate habitation from the women, and never have access to the nuns but at the administration of the sacrament.—3. That the same church should serve both for divine service.—4. That the sacrament should

should not be administered to both together, but in the presence of many witnesses. Though this motley order was contrary to the law of the Justinian code, yet it long flourished, and numerous monasteries were subsequently founded, conformably to the Gilbertine scheme. The founder lived to see thirteen erected, in which were 700 men and 1100 women. He attained the great age of 100 years: and from his austerity, and many miracles having been performed after his death, according to legendary story, he was canonized by Pope Innocent the Third, A. D. 1202. For some centuries this order maintained its credit for superior sanctity; but human institutions are liable to degenerate, and the brethren and sisters, in a subsequent period, departed strangely from the continency and chastity they so solemnly and rigidly professed.

The annual revenues of the priory in Sempringham, at the suppression, were valued, according to Speed, at 359l. 11s. 7d. The monastery stood to the north-east of the church. The site is still marked by a moated area. The church, which serves the two parishes of Poyton and Billingborough, is only a part of the ancient edifice. The transepts are down, and the chancel in ruins. The windows are lancet-shaped, and the doors have circular arches, with chevron or zigzag mouldings, and evidently point out the time of its erection to have been in the early Norman period.

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BETTISLOE WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Bassingthorpe cum Westby*, *Bitchfield*, *Burton Coggles*, *Bytham Castle*, *Bytham Little*, *Careby*, *Corby*, *Counthorpe* hamlet, *Creeton*, *Edenham*, *Gunby*, *Holywell cum Awnby* chapelry, *Irnham*, including the hamlets of *Bulby* and *Hawthorpe*, *Kreisby* hamlet, *Lavington*, alias *Lenton cum Hanby*, *Manthorpe* hamlet, *Osgodby* hamlet, *Skillington*, *Stainby*, *Swayfield*, *Swinstead*, *Toft and Lound* hamlet, *Witham on the Hill*,  
*Witham*



*Withan North and Twiford, including the hamlet of Lobthorpe, and Witham South.*

At CASTLE BYTHAM was a fortified mansion, or castle, which belonged to Lord Hussey in the time of Henry the Seventh. In the time of William the First, this manor was the property of Odo, Earl of Albemarle and Holderness; who, having married Adeliza the Conqueror's Sister, obtained the grant of the castle, and adjoining territory, for the support of their infant son Stephen; and for the specified purpose, that they might be enabled to feed him with *wheaten bread*. William de Foxtibus Earl of Albemarle, in the time of Edward the Third, rebelled against that monarch; and fortifying his castle at Bytham, plundered the surrounding country. But the fortress being besieged by the royal troops, it was levelled with the ground. It was afterwards repaired, and long remained in possession of the family of Calville.

EDENHAM, a large parish, includes the township of *Edenham*, Grimsthorpe, Elsthorpe, and Scottlethorpe, with the site of the demesnes abbey of *Vaudey*, or *de Valle Dei*. This parish contains 6424 acres of land, which, excepting about 160 acres, belong to the Duke of Ancaster. The parish church, was formerly appropriated to the abbey of Vaudey, and the living is now a perpetual curacy in the gift of the above named nobleman, who is impropiator of the parish, and proprietor of the church-yard. The Church consists of a nave, with north and south ailes, a chancel, south porch, and handsome western tower. This is of more modern erection than some parts of the church, and was probably built about the time of Henry the Sixth. The western door has a flat pointed arch with quatrefoils in the groins. The ailes are separated from the nave, by four arches on each side. At the east-end of the north aile are two tablets of black marble, bordered with naval and military trophies; over which, within a garter, surmounted by an earl's coronet, is a shield containing twenty-five coats. On the first tablet is a Latin inscription to the memory of

*Robert*



*Robert Bertie*, Earl of Lindsey, who fell a martyr to loyalty at the battle of Edgehill, in the time of Charles the First; the sixteenth year of his age, A. D. 1642. The other tablet records the virtues and exploits of his son *H. S. E. Montacute*, who in the royal cause accompanied his father; but survived the tempestuous period, dying the 25th of July, A. D. 1656, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. A mural tablet of white marble is sacred to the memory of *Richard Bertie* Earl of Lindsey, Lord Great Chamberlain of England, who attended James Duke of York, afterwards King James the Second, and Mareschall de Turenne, at the siege of Mouzan in 1653, and that of Landrecy, 1655. He commanded a troop of horse in Ireland, and served against the rebel Duke of Monmouth: he died a bachelor the 19th of January, A. D. 1686. On the south side of the chancel is a monument of white and variegated marble, with an inscription commemorative of *Robert Lord Willoughby*, who died May 9th, A. D. 1701. Opposite to this is a rich marble monument with a handsome entablature, supported by Corinthian columns, with an inscription, stating, that in a vault beneath lie the remains of *Robert Bertie*, created *Duke of Ancaster* and Ketseven by King George the First, and who by death quitted all earthly honours, July 26th, in the year 1728. This monument was executed by L. J. Scheemakers and H. Cheere. Against the same wall is a monument consisting of a pedestal of white marble, on which is the effigy of *Peregrine* the second *Duke of Ancaster*, in a Roman dress, reclining on an urn. On the front is an inscription purporting, that he died January 1, 1741, leaving four sons and three daughters. On the south side of the chancel is a very elegant white veined marble monument, executed by Harris of London, to the memory of *Peregrine*, third *Duke of Ancaster* and Ketseven, who died in the sixty-fifth year of his age, August 12th, 1778. It also records the memory of his son *Robert*, fourth *Duke of Ancaster*, who died the 8th of July 1779; only eleven months after he had succeeded to the titles and estate.

In the village of EDENHAM, is GRIMSTHORPE CASTLE, the seat of the *Duke of Ancaster*. The house is a large irregular structure, and appears to have been erected at different periods. The south-east tower is the frustrum of a pyramid, embattled at top, containing a winding stone stair case, which leads to a room having windows similar to those of many ancient castles; and was probably built as early as the time of Henry the Third. The principal part of the house was erected in the time of Henry the Eighth. "The place of Grimesthorpe was no great thing afore the new building of the second court. Yet was all the old work of stone, and the gate-house was fair and strong, and the walls on each side of it embattled, there is also a great ditch about the house\*." Grimsthorpe, Fuller calls an *extempore structure*, raised suddenly by Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk, to entertain King Henry the Eighth, in his progress through this part of the kingdom. The great hall was fitted up to receive a suit of hangings made of gobelin tapestry, which the duke came into possession of by his wife Mary, Queen of France. About that time the east, west, and south fronts were erected, which have embattled turrets at the angles. In the north-east tower is the kitchen, and the north-west tower contains a beautiful chapel. The ground-floor of the east front consists of offices, over which is the principal dining-room, ornamented with a collection of pictures, and fine portraits. The south and west fronts have numerous smaller rooms. The handsomest part of the building is the north front, which was erected between the years 1722 and 1723, from a design, and under the direction of that celebrated architect, Sir John Vanbrugh, who, according to Sir Joshua Reynolds, displayed more imagination in his buildings than any other architect. This front consists of two lofty wings, balustraded at top, and a pinnacle at each corner.

Elevations of the part of Grimsthorpe Castle, as designed by Sir John Vanbrugh, are published in "*The Vitruvius Britannicus*."

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\* Leland's Itin. Vol. I. fol. 26.



This magnificent structure stands in a fine park sixteen miles in circumference. On the north side of the castle is an avenue, which extends three quarters of a mile. To the south are the gardens and pleasure grounds. On the east side the view embraces the hamlet of Grimsthorpe, with the Lordship of Edenham; and on the west, a beautiful sloping lawn descends to two lakes, comprising about an hundred acres: beyond which a rising ground is terminated by a grove of forest trees.

In the park, about a mile from the present mansion, formerly stood a *Cistercian abbey*, founded by William Earl of Albemarle, about the year 1451. It was called, *VALLIS DEI*, and vulgarly *Vandy*. Gilbert de Gamb was a great benefactor, and Ganfred de Brachecurt gave the whole of his estate at Brachecurt to it, upon condition that the monks should maintain him and his wife with two servants in all necessities so long as they both should live; with the additional proviso, that they should have double allowance.

NESS WAPENTAKE contains the parishes of *Barholm, Baston, Braceborough, Carlby, Deeping St. James, Deeping Market, Deeping West, Greatford, Langtoft, Stowe, Tallington, Thurlby, Uffington, Wilsthorpe*, and the *Town of Stamford*. At the eastern end of this wapentake is

#### MARKET DEEPING,

A small market town, which derives its name from the situation. The land to the east of it is said to be relatively the lowest in the whole county. Ingulphus observes, that *Deeping* signifies a low meadow. He also states, that Richard de Rulos, Chamberlain to William the Conqueror, raised a lofty artificial bank to confine the waters of the river Welland, which before used frequently to overflow;



flow; and on this bank were erected a number of houses, which formed a large village. Of this place, however, an earlier notice appears on record; for Morcar de Bruen, a valiant soldier in the time of the Saxons, gave to the abbey of Croyland the manor of Deeping, "cum 200 mansionibus et cotagiis 400, et 2 ecclesiis." This grant was confirmed by Beorred, King of Mercia, in a charter dated the eighth of the *Kalends of August*, A. D. 860. About ten years afterwards, Beorred seized the manor, with its appurtenances, and bestowed them on a person named Langfar, who was denominated, from the office he held, "*Panetarius Regis*."

The town has a weekly market on Thursdays, and five annual fairs. The number of inhabitants returned under the late act was 803, occupying 172 houses.

At this place was born Dr. ROBERT TIGHE, who was educated in the university of Oxford, was preferred to the living of All-Hallows, Barking, in London, and afterwards appointed Archdeacon of Middlesex. Being deemed an excellent linguist and divine, he was one of the persons employed to revise and correct the translation of the Bible. His name, however, is not in Fuller's Catalogue of Translators.

At DEEPING ST. JAMES was a small chapel, erected by the monks of Croyland Abbey, for disseminating the gospel: Richard de Rulos converted it into a parish church. Here was founded a priory of Benedictine monks by *Baldwin Wac*, or *Wake*, in the year 1139, and given to the church and abbey of Thorney by his grandson, Baldwin, to be held free from all secular service, with the reservation of only two marks per annum, payable to the church of St. Guthlac, out of the lands belonging to the prior of St. James, in Deeping.

To the east of this village extends a large tract of marsh land, called *Deeping Fen*, which is described in the following terms by Mr. Ward, who was clerk to the trustees for inclosing this district.

\* *Ingulph. Hist.* p. 4. 91.





VIEW OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOHN'S, N.B., FROM THE WINDMILL.

Painted by J. M. W. Turner, 1809.



district. It belonged "to several parishes, and is partly holden by persons who are free from drainage expences, by the nature of their buildings; and all the land is free from every other charge of assessment, and from land-taxes and ecclesiastical demands. But though there is no poor assessment, relief is granted by the adventurers to some poor persons who do properly belong to the district of taxable land, which expence is mixed with the account of monies expended in supporting the works. But as to the free lands, which are about one-third part of the whole, every separate farmer maintains his own poor, without any connection with others. I suppose there are not a great number settled upon them, for being aware of the peculiar burden, I believe they make such contracts for hiring, as to avoid, as much as possible, having people settled on them. I have sent below a copy of the clause in the act of parliament, relative to the maintenance of our poor, which will shew the foundation of that business, and is all, I believe, in any part of the acts respecting it, viz. 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Charles II<sup>d</sup>. p. 37. 'But all and every the inhabitants that may hereafter be upon any part of the said third part, or upon any part of the said 5000 acres, and are not able to maintain themselves, shall be maintained and kept by the said trustees, their heirs, and assigns, and the survivor of them, and never become chargeable in any kind, to all, or any of the respective parishes wherein such inhabitant, or inhabitants, shall reside or dwell; any statute or law to the contrary, whereof in any wise, notwithstanding.' The qualification is, being holder of 200 acres, or upwards. The inclosed fen was formerly part of the common belonging to several parishes adjoining. There is no church in the district; the inhabitants go to the neighbouring towns to church."

#### STAMFORD, OR STANIFORD,

Is an ancient borough and market town, seated on the northern bank of the river Welland, in the south-west corner of the county,

on the verge of Northamptonshire and Rutlandshire. The name is derived from the Saxon *staen*, and *ford*: that is, Stony, or *Stone-ford*. Some writers have attempted to carry the history of this place, like that of many others, up to a period, where, from the darkness of the times, all is obscurity; and from the scantiness of records, opinions respecting its state, however plausible, can be little more than conjectural fictions. Stamford is said to have been a place of note in the time of Bladud, a British king, who reigned eight hundred and sixty-three years anterior to the Christian æra. And Stow observes, that this Bladud, who was the son of Rudhudibras, built Stamford, and founded in it an university; which was suppressed by the Bishop of Rome, in the time of St. Austin. But this is evidently erroneous, for there is no mention of such a British town in the catalogue of Nennius; and the Roman geographer Ptolomy, only marks two cities of the Coritani, *Lindum*, Lincoln, and *Ratae*, Leicester. The village of *Bridge-Casterton*, two miles distant, through which the E-min Street passes, is generally believed to have been a Roman station; and there Camden and some other topographers have agreed to fix the CAUSENNÆ of Antonine's Itinerary. Out of that, after the departure of the Romans, when many of these stations became dilapidated, probably arose the present town. The first authentic account of this place is by Henry of Huntingdon, who informs us, that the Picts and Scots, having ravaged the country as far as *Stamford*, were met at this place and defeated by the Saxon auxiliaries, under the command of Hengist; for which service the British king Vortigern bestowed on the Saxon chief certain lands in Lincolnshire.—In a charter of Wulphere, king of the Mercians, *Stamford* is mentioned as one of the bounds of lands which he gave to his monastery of *Medeshampstede*: but Mr. Peck considered this charter to be spurious\*. By another charter of Edgar, A. D. 972, *Stamford* appears at that time to have been a market town, and a more considerable

\* Antiquarian Annals of the Town of Stamford, Lib. II. p. 21.



siderable place than Peterborough. In that reign, Leland observes, that it was a borough, and ever after belonged to the crown\*. In the time of the Danes it was reckoned one of the five great cities of the Danish kingdom, whose inhabitants, for the purpose of distinction, were termed *Fisburgenses*. The others were Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, and Lincoln; to which two more were afterwards added, Chester and York: when the appellation was changed to *Seafenburgenses*, which name they retained till the close of the Danish dynasty in England. By the Saxon annals calling it *Byrigh*, and Florence of Worcester *Arx*, it was evidently then a walled town.—Leland says there were seven principal towers on the walls of Stamford, to each of which the freeholders were occasionally allotted, to watch and ward; and, according to Speed's plan of the town, there were also four smaller forts, which made the number eleven. Besides these, the town was defended by seven principal, and two postern gates, and a strong citadel. The castle was probably built by the Danes: for the Saxon Chronicle, and Henry of Huntingdon, speaking of its being taken from them by Edmund Ironside, A. D. 942, observes, it had been then a long time in their possession. But Leland, following Matthew of Westminster, states, that Elfreda, sister of Edward the elder, rebuilt the castle of Stamford, on the northern bank of the Welland, A. D. 914. The Danes again repossessed themselves of the castle, and held it till the death of their last king, in the year 1041, when it reverted again to the English. But by William conquering the kingdom, it fell, A. D. 1066, into the hands of the Normans. At the time of the general survey, there were in Stamford one hundred and forty-one mansions†, and twelve *lages-*

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*men,*

\* Itin. Vol. VI. f. 28.

† *Mansio* or mansion, comprehended more in its ancient, than its present acceptation; for in Domesday it is stated, that "Roger de Busli had in Snottingham, or Nottingham, three mansions, in which were situated *eleven houses*."



*men*\*, who had within their own houses *sac* and *soc*, over their own men, except the tax and heriots, and the forfeiture of their bodies, and felons' goods. In the reign of Stephen, the castle was besieged by Henry of Anjou, afterwards King Henry the Second; who took it, and bestowed both that and the town, excepting the barons' and knights' fees, on Richard Humez or Hemetz, to hold them of the crown by homage and other service. By King John they were granted to William Earl of Warren, to hold by a similar tenure. After his death, they were granted by John Earl of Warren to Edward the First, and by the king granted to the said earl, for the term of his life; on whose demise, by a previous agreement, they reverted again to the crown. After many grants, and as many reversions arising from forfeiture, or failure of male issue, the manor was given by Queen Elizabeth to William Cecil, first Lord Burleigh; and by marriage of Anne, his grand-daughter and coheiress, with William Earl of Exeter, it descended to Henry Grey, first Earl of Stamford, in which family it continued for several descents; but is now again, by purchase, vested in the family of *Cecil*.

In the reign of Richard the Third the castle was thrown down and demolished. The hill on which it stood, to the north-west of the town, appears to have been nearly artificial, the various layers of earth lying horizontally; and by the side are the small remains of a stone wall.

In the time of the Conqueror, Stamford was governed by the *lagemen* or *aldermen*. In the time of Edward the Fourth it obtained the privilege, which it still retains, of sending two members to parliament: and in the first year of that reign a charter was granted, by virtue of which the *aldermen* and other officers were incorporated, under the name of the "*Aldermen and comburgesses*,"

\* These were judges of the laws, and were the first civil governors of towns; having *sac*, that is the privilege granted by the king to judge and try causes, and receive the forfeitures arising from crimes within a certain limit: The place of such jurisdiction was denominated *Soc*.







gesses of the first and second bench." Various other privileges were conferred by different charters in succeeding reigns; but the town was not governed by a mayor till the reign of Charles the Second\*, who, when he recalled the royal charters throughout the kingdom, granted a new one to Stamford, which was confirmed in the reign of James the Second. By that charter it was again incorporated; and the corporation made to consist of a mayor, thirteen aldermen, and twenty-four capital burgesses, by the name of "The mayor, aldermen, and capital burgesses of the town or borough of Stamford." By the same deed, the mayor and corporation are empowered to chuse a recorder, deputy recorder, a coroner, and a town clerk, "to enter debts, according to the statutes of merchants, and the statute of Acton Burnell."

In Stamford were formerly four religious houses, besides one in the parish of St. Martin, or Borough Stamford. The principal of these

A BENEDICTINE PRIORY, called ST. LEONARD'S, was founded, according to Mr. Peck, by Wilfred, in the seventh century; and refounded in the time of the Conqueror by Bishop Carileph, A. D. 1082, who made it a cell to Durham. The site is at a small distance from the town, but formerly was included within it. A part of the conventual church is standing. The ailes and transepts are down. A portion of the nave, sixty feet long and twenty-one broad, is an interesting ruin. On the north side is a range of circular arches, with a waving ornamental moulding; in the west front is a doorway, with a semicircular arch. This is connected with two lateral niches, and over them is an arcade with an oval window in the pediment.

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\* This appears from a letter directed to Robert Fawcet, alderman, by Lenthall, the speaker of the House of Commons, at the latter end of Charles the First's reign; and in consequence of an ordinance, which soon followed that circular letter, the alderman put in nomination, for his loyalty to the king, was declared an improper person, and another was nominated in his place, and served the office of chief magistrate.

The WHITE, or CARMELITE FRIARY, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is said to have been founded by Henry the Third. It was evidently a royal foundation, from the king's arms having been cut in stone over the western gate; but as the coat contains the arms of France quartered with those of England, it is evident that Edward the Third was either the founder, or a great benefactor to it. That monarch held a council here, when he confirmed the monastery of Newstede. It was a place used for the reception of the English kings, in their progress to and from the north, and was situated at a small distance from St. Paul's-gate, where the road divides for Richall and Uffington; and from remains of walls appears to have been an extensive building. The west gate still remains entire, and is a handsome, though small specimen of the architecture of the fourteenth century.

The CONVENT of GREY FRIARS, Franciscans, or Minorites, was founded by Henry the Third, or by some of the Plantagenet family, in the reign of that monarch; who was so partial to this new order, that he wished to place some of its monks in all the great towns of his dominions. Fuller gives a particular account respecting the surrender of this monastery, by its prior, or warden, and nine monks, to King Henry the Eighth, in the year 1539. It stood just without St. Paul's gate. Mr. Peck describes various stone figures, and fine pieces of carvings, which have been dug up; but all the remains at present are part of an outer wall, and postern, or back gate-way.

The MONASTERY of BLACK FRIARS, called also *Dominicans*, and *Friar Preachers*, was founded about the year 1220, by *William de Fortibus*, the second Earl of Albermarle, who rebelled against his sovereign, Henry the Third. It was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and St. Nicholas, the favourite saint of that monastic order. Speed notices a Dominican friary of St. Mary and St. Nicholas, founded at a much earlier period, by Talbois, Earl of Anjou, and William de Romara. These were probably the same; but if founded as above described, it must have been for monks

monks of some other order, as that of St. Dominick did not take its rise till A. D. 1216. William de Fortibus might therefore have further endowed it, and changed its monks to the more fashionable order of the time. It stood between St. George's gate and Tenter meadow.

The AUSTIN FRIARY, Leland says, was founded about the year 1380, by Fleming, Archdeacon of Richmond, who was a very wealthy man of Stamford. Richard Warner, its last prior, with five monks, surrendered this monastery to Henry the Eighth, October 6th, 1539.

In this town were, at one period, fourteen parish churches, besides chapels. Several of these were burnt by the northern soldiers A.D. 1461, and never rebuilt. The number was further diminished at the dissolution of the monasteries; and by an act passed in the year 1547, they were reduced to five, according to the ancient division of the town into five wards: This is the present number, exclusive of St. Martin's, in Stamford Baron. The names are *Great St. Michael's*, *St. Mary's*, *St. George's*, *All Saints'*, and *St. John's*.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, situated near the centre of the town, is probably the oldest structure, part of it being built prior to the year 1230. It consists of a nave, north and south aisles, choir, with north and south chancels, which extend beyond the aisles. The eastern end of the choir, being in a ruinous condition, was taken down and rebuilt by the parishioners about the year 1705, when in the wall were found, thrown in as rubbish, sculptured stones, the fragments of some religious building, which had existed anterior to this. At the west end of the nave was a wooden tower, which was taken down, and replaced by another of stone in 1761. The windows of the church have formerly been highly ornamented with painted glass, but the figures, arms, &c. are in a lamentable state of mutilation.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH appears to have been built at the latter end of the thirteenth century, and probably on the site of one as



early as the conquest, as the inhabitants consider this the mother church. The spire is a handsome structure, without battlements, having, at that part where it begins to contract, the figures of the four Evangelists, placed under elegant canopies, one at each corner. At the upper end of the chancel is an ancient and curious monument, without arms or inscription. The figure of a man armed cap-a-pee is recumbent by a female figure. This tomb is to the memory of Sir David Philips, who distinguished himself at the battle of Bosworth field. He founded a chantry in this church.—In the Cottonian library is a manuscript bill of expences for repairs, and other matters respecting this church in the year 1427, containing many curious items.

**ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH** is a large plain building, consisting of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, with a square embattled tower at the west end. The windows of the aisles are large with three lights, and pointed flat arches; those of the nave have square heads. It was rebuilt A. D. 1450, at the sole expence of William Bruges, first Garter King at Arms.\* In the chancel windows, which are very large, were numerous figures in stained glass.—In this church lie the remains of *David Cecil, Esq.* who was high sheriff of Northamptonshire in 1542, and grandfather of the first Lord Burleigh.

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH** is a large well-proportioned structure, consisting of a nave, two aisles, and two chancels; one at the end of the south aisle, and the other answering to the nave. At the west end of the north aisle is the steeple, which is a lofty, handsome, embattled structure, with octangular turrets at the corners, and crowned by a neat octangular spire, crocketed at the angles  
from

\* This person bestowed numerous jewels, rich plate, and other valuable ornaments, upon the church. Mr. Peck has inserted in his *Annals*, a copy of the will, which contains many particulars respecting these bequests. *Antiquarian Annals of Stamford*, Lib. XIV. p. 24.

from the base to the summit. This church, which Mr. Peck considers "one of the principal ornaments of Stamford," was built at the expence of a Mr. John Brown, merchant of the Staple at Calais, who, with his wife lie buried at the upper end of the north aisle. On a gilt brass plate in the wall is this inscription, "*Oraté pro animabus Jhannis Browne, mercatoris Stapule Calisie & Margerie uxoris ejus. Qui quidem Johannes obiit xxvi<sup>o</sup> die mensis Julii an. dni. M,CCCCXLII; & que quædem Margeria obiit xxii<sup>o</sup> die Novembris M,CCCCCLX, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus. Amen.*" In St. Mary's chapel, where formerly stood the altar, are figures in brass of William Brown, who built and endowed the bead-house, and his wife; with scrolls over their heads—"X me spede," "dere lardy help at nede." Against the east window of this chapel is a white marble monument, in memory of Mr. Thomas Truesdale, who lived in the same house that Mr. Brown did, and followed his example, by founding another almshouse.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S CHURCH was rebuilt about the thirtieth year of Henry the Sixth, A.D. 1452. It consists of a nave and two aisles, with a chancel at the east end of each. They are separated from the nave and aisles by elegant screen work, and the roof has been highly decorated with figures, carved both in wood and stone. The windows of this church, according to Mr. Peck, exhibited some admirable specimens of stained glass.

Besides religious foundations, Stamford had formerly several others devoted to the tuition of youth. In the year 1109, Joffrid, Abbot of Croyland, deputed three monks from his monastery for this purpose. This was probably the foundation of the University, which has been the subject of much controversy. Camden\* places the date of the establishment in the reign of Edward the Third; and Anthony Wood, in the year 1292†. But the

\* Britannia, Vol. II. p. 225.

† As quoted by Mr. Peck, Lib. IX. p. 22.

the foundation was earlier than either of these assigned periods. The Carmelites had a monastery here in the time of Henry the Third, gave public lectures on divinity and the liberal arts, and held public disputations against Judaism. Numbers of the clergy and gentry sent their sons here for instruction. Other religious houses in this place followed the example. Stamford soon became celebrated as a place of liberal instruction. Public lectures were appointed, and colleges erected for the reception of students. On a violent altercation taking place in the reign of Edward the Third, between the Northern and Southern scholars in the University of Oxford, the former class removed to Stamford: but they were obliged, by royal proclamation, to return to Oxford, and it was afterward made a statute, that no Oxford man should take a degree at Stamford. In this university were four colleges: namely, *Brasen nose*, whence a college at Oxford, founded in the time of Henry the Seventh, probably took its name, was taken down in the year 1668, and a charity school erected out of the materials. *Sempringham Hall* stood on St. Peter's Hill, and was intended principally as a seminary for youth destined to profess, agreeable to the order of Gilbertines. It was founded by Robert Luttrell, rector of Irtham, A. D. 1292.

*Peterborough Hall* was opposite the south door of All Saints church. It was pulled down about 1705.

*Black Hall*, a school to prepare the youth for the monastery of Black friars, stood to the north-west of All Saints church, and was taken down soon after Peterborough Hall.

The *Free School*, in St. Paul's Street, was founded in the reign of Edward the Sixth, A. D. 1548, by Mr. William Radcliffe; and further endowed in the tenth year of James the First, by Thomas Earl of Exeter, who gave the sum of 108l. annually to Clare Hall, in Cambridge, on condition, that he and his heirs for ever should have the nomination of eight scholars, and out of them three fellows; and when any of the scholarships should become vacant, that preference should be given, in electing, to the youth educated in the free grammar school of Stamford.

In



In the *Charity School*, situated also in St. Paul's Street, thirty-six boys are clothed and educated; the expence of which are, in a great measure, defrayed by public contributions.

*Browne's Hospital*, so called from Mr. William Browne, an alderman and merchant of the staple, at Calais, was founded in the reign of Richard the Third, for a warden, confrater, and twelve poor men, and endowed with ample lands for their support. It is an handsome old building, situated on the north side of the corn market. In the chapel, at the eastern end, which was consecrated A. D. 1494, service is performed by the confrater twice every day. In the windows is much curious painted glass. The revenues have greatly increased of late years, and the poor are comfortably provided for.

In the year 1770, St. Peter's gate being in a ruinous condition, was taken down, and near the site was erected *St. Peter's Hospital*, a well contrived building, for the reception of eight poor men and their wives, whose age, to be admissible, must be more than sixty.

*Truesdale's Hospital*, for six poor men, who have three shillings and sixpence weekly, and an annual allowance of clothes and coals, is situated in the Scogate. Besides these, there are other charitable institutions, named *Callises*. St. John's Callis, adjoining Truesdale's Hospital, is for eight poor women. *All Saints Callis*, on St. Peter's Hill, is for twelve poor women. And Williamson's Callis, on the same hill, in the parish of All Saints, erected by Mr. G. Williamson, grocer, and endowed with lands by his widow, in the year 1772. This charity provides an asylum for six poor widows, whose age, at admission, must be near forty-eight.

The civil business of the town is transacted in the *TOWN HALL*, a large insulated structure, standing near St. Mary's church. It was built by trustees, appointed under an act passed in the year 1776, for widening the road from the north end of the bridge to the Scogate, when the old Hall was taken down. The building has two handsome fronts, and the whole is divided into twenty-two apartments, comprising the municipal rooms, the largest of which

which is fifty-two feet long, twenty-five wide, and nineteen in height; a guard room, house of correction, and a gaol.

The *Theatre* in St. Mary Street, a neat building, after the model of those in London, was erected at the expence of 806l. in the year 1768.

The river Welland is navigable to the town for boats and small barges. The town is supplied with water from *Wolthorpe*, whence it is conveyed by iron pipes. Stamford has two markets on Monday and Friday, and seven annual fairs. By the returns to parliament under the late act, the number of houses was 701, of inhabitants 4022.

*Stamford Baron*, though considered part of the town of Stamford, being separated from it only by the river Welland, over which is a stone bridge, is a distinct liberty and parish in the county of Northampton. Anciently this part of the town was called Stamford beyond the bridge, or Stamford south of the Welland. The first time the appellation of Stamford Baron occurs on record, is about the year 1455, being then part of the lands held *per baroniam*, by the Abbot of Peterborough, to distinguish it from the other part called the King's borough. During the Saxon period, in the reign of Athelstan, it enjoyed the privilege of a mint\*, and was particularly favored by succeeding monarchs. King Edward the elder fortified the southern banks of the river against the Danes, who frequently occupied the northern side; and built, according to Marianus, a strong castle in Stamford Baron to prevent the incursions of that people from the north. Mr. Peck observes, he could not discover that it was ever walled; yet it was defended by five gates and a castle. The latter stood on the verge of the Roman road, where now is the Nuns' farm. In Domesday book this place is mentioned as the sixth ward belonging to Stamford, and as being situated in *Hantunescire*.

Here

\* Stowe's Annals. This was a privilege granted to the Abbot of Medehamstede, and is mentioned in a charter of King Edgar to that monastery.

Here was a nunnery of the Benedictine order, dedicated to the honour of God and St. Michael, by William Abbot, of Peterborough, in the reign of Henry the Second. The annual revenues of which, at the suppression, were, according to Speed, 72l. 18s. 10½d.

In a deed granted in the time of Richard the First, notice is taken of an hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Ægidius, or St. Giles; and a house of regular canons for Knights Hospitallers, but by whom founded is unknown. Where now is the almshouse, stood an hospital dedicated to St. John the Baptist, erected by Brand de Fossato, for the reception of pilgrims and poor travellers. Upon the site of this, William Lord Burleigh, lord high treasurer of England, built an hospital, and endowed it for a warden and twelve poor men.

The present Church, dedicated to St. Martin, was erected by Bishop Russel, in the reign of Edward the Fourth. It is a large handsome building, consisting of a nave, two chancels, north and south aisles, and a square pinnacled tower at the west end of the north aisle. The lofty nave is divided from the north aisle by six pointed arches, and from the south by five, supported by slender columns. Mr. Gough erroneously states, that, "in 1737 all the painted glass in St. Martin's was taken away to save the vicar from wearing spectacles\*."

At the upper end of the north chancel is a cenotaph to the memory of *Richard Cecil* and his wife, the parents of the first Lord Burleigh. The entablature is supported by columns of the Corinthian order, and under a circular canopy are the effigies of both represented before an altar; and on the front of the base, three female figures, in a supplicating posture. On the altar are two inscriptions. A very curious monument of various marble, consisting of two circular arches, supported by Corinthian pillars, and surmounted with an escutcheoned tablet, and which has beneath, on a raised altar tomb, a figure in armour, with a dog lying

at

\* Edition of Camden, Vol. II. p. 244.



at the feet; is commemorative of the virtues of *William Cecil*, Baron of Burleigh, and Lord high Treasurer of England.

Against the north wall of the north Chancel, is a stately tomb of white and grey marble, erected to the memory of *Jakin, Earl of Exeter*, who died August 29th, 1700; and of his lady, who died June 18th, 1709.—The earl is represented in a Roman habit, discoursing with his countess, who has an open book resting on her knee, and a pen in her hand, as ready to take down the purport of his discourse. Below is the figure of Minerva with the gorgon's head; and opposite, the same deity is represented in a mournful attitude, as lamenting the loss of the patron of arts and sciences. A pyramid of grey marble, ascending almost to the roof, is crowned with the figure of Cupid, holding in his hand a snake with the tail in the mouth, emblematical of eternity.

These monuments were executed at Rome, and display a style of sculpture more distinguished by the *quantity*, than *quality* of its workmanship.

Against one of the pillars, on the north side of the nave, is a mural monument with a Latin inscription, importing, that it was erected at the expence of John Earl of Exeter, to the memory of *William Wissing*, an ingenious painter, a native of Amsterdam, and a disciple of the celebrated Peter Lely. He is compared to an early bunch of grapes, because snatched away in the flower of his age, September 10th, 1687, at the age of 39.

Stamford Baron comprises one parish. The living is a vicarage, which, by the munificence of the lord treasurer Burleigh, is endowed with the rectorial tythes\*.

It would be improper to leave Stamford without adverting to an almost singular point in the law of inheritance, called *Borough English*; by which the youngest son, if the father dies intestate, inherits the lands and tenements, to the exclusion of the elder branches of the family. This, as well as the law of *Gavel kind*, which

\* *Burleigh*, the handsome seat of Lord Exeter, about a mile distant, will be duly noticed in a subsequent account of Northamptonshire.

which prevails in Kent, were of Saxon origin; respecting the reason of its introduction, the opinions of lawyers and antiquaries are divided. Littleton supposes the youngest were preferred, as least able to provide for themselves. Dr Plot conjectures that it arose from an old barbarous right, assumed by the lord of the manor during the feudal ages, of sleeping the first night after marriage with the vassal's bride. Whence the first born was supposed to belong to the lord. Though this might afford a reason for the exclusion of the eldest son, yet, in the case of there being more than two, it does not satisfactorily account for the preference given to the youngest. Mr. Peck's opinion is less exceptionable; he says, that Stamford being a trading town, the elder sons were set up in business, or generally received their respective shares of the paternal property, while the father was living.

A singular custom, called *Bull-running*, which annually takes place here and at Tilbury in Staffordshire, must not be passed unnoticed. Tradition relates, that William, the Fifth Earl of Warren, in the reign of King John, while standing one day on the walls of his castle, saw two bulls contending for a cow. A butcher, to whom one of the bulls belonged, coming up with a large dog, set him at his own bull. The dog driving the animal into the town, more dogs joined in the chace, with a vast concourse of people. The animal, enraged by the baiting of the dogs and the clamour of the multitude, knocked down and ran over many persons. This scene so delighted the earl, who had been a spectator, that he gave the meadows where it commenced, after the first crop was off, as a common for the use of the butchers in Stamford; on condition, that they should annually provide a bull six weeks before Christmas-day, to perpetuate the sport.

This plebeian carnival, which has been instituted five hundred and seventy years, is still held on the appointed day, the festival of St Brice; but from the account given by Mr. Butcher, of the manner in which the ceremony used to be conducted, it appears, that either the manners of the inhabitants are more refined, or their veneration for antiquity has diminished. Formerly, the night  
previous

previous to the important day, the bull procured for the occasion was secured in the stable belonging to the chief magistrate; and the *Bullards*, or men appointed to take the lead in the pursuit, were clad in antic dresses. But at present the magistracy decline all interference, the bullards are simply clothed, and much of the original spirit has latterly evaporated. The morning the bull is to run, proclamation is made through the town by the bellman, that no person, on pain of imprisonment, shall offer any violence to strangers. The town being a great thoroughfare, a guard is appointed to protect persons passing through it that day. No person pursuing the bull is allowed to have clubs or sticks with iron in them. When the people, after due notice given, have secured their doors and windows, the bull is turned out; when men, women, children, dogs, &c. run promiscuously after the animal with loud vociferations and wanton frolics. After the diversion is over, the bull is killed, and the price for which he sells, is divided among the Society of Butchers, who procured him. This custom of bull-running, which, to a stranger, must appear highly ludicrous, Mr. Samuel Pegge observes, "is a sport of a higher kind than diversions commonly are, because it was made a matter of tenure." Those, however, who have read Bion's Jocular tenures, will not, from this circumstance, be inclined to change their opinion, if they before considered it cruel towards the animal, and derogatory to man.

END OF LINCOLNSHIRE.



# LIST

## OF THE

*Principal Books, Maps, and Prints, that have been published in Illustration of the Topography and Antiquities of the Counties contained in the Ninth Volume of the Beauties of England and Wales.*

### LANCASHIRE.

"*Phthisiologia Lancastriensis, cui accessit tantamen philosophicum de mineralibus aquis in eodem comitatu observatis.* Lond. 1694." 12mo \*. By Dr. Charles Leigh. The principal matter of this small Volume is incorporated in his "*Natural History of Lancashire, Cheshire, and the Peak in Derbyshire: with an account of the British, Phoenician, Armenian, Greek, and Roman Antiquities in those parts.* Oxford, 1700." Fol.

"*A punctuall relation of the passages in Lancashire this weeke.* Containing the taking of *Houghton Tower* by the parliament's forces, &c. how the Earl of Darbie's forces made an onset on the town of *Boulton*, &c. The taking of the Towne and Castle of *Lancaster*, by Serjeant-major *Birch*. Lond. 1643," 4to.

"*Strange newes of a prodigious monster*, botn in the township of *Adlington*, in the parish of *Standish*, in the county of *Lancaster*, April 17, 1613, testified by the Rev. Divine *W. Leigh*, D. D. and preacher of God's word at *Standish* aforesaid, 1613," 4to.

Since the preceding Account of Lancashire was published, the following work has appeared. "*The Lancashire Gazetteer: an Alphabetically arranged Account of the Hundreds, Market Towns, Boroughs, Parishes, Townships, Hamlets, Gentlemens' Seats, Rivers, Lakes, Mountains, Moors, Commons, Mosses, Antiquities, &c. in the County Palatine of Lancaster: together with Historical Descriptions of the chief places, with their Fairs, Markets, Local and Metropolitan Distances, Charters, Church Livings, Patrons, &c.* By *Joseph Aston*, Author of the *Manchester Guide*, 1808," 18mo.

"*Latham Spaw in Lancashire*, with some remarkable cases and cures effected by it. By *Edmund Borlace*. Lond. 1670," 12mo. A second Edition was published in London, 1672, 12mo.

VOL. IX.

3 F

"*Antiquitates*

\* Dr. Cay, in his account of this book, *Phil. Trans.* No. 206, p. 1003, makes many objections to the Author's observations.

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

"*Antiquitates Bremetonacenses*; or, the Roman Antiquities of Overborough; wherein Overborough is proved the Bremetonacæ of Antoninus; the year when, and the Roman who erected this station, collected out of Tacitus; an account of the garrison there; also of the idol who was tutelar deity of Overborough; to which is added, a Description of as many Monuments of Antiquity as have been dug up or discovered there lately, tending to illustrate the History of this once famous Station. By Richard Rauthmell, 1746," 4to. The Author's explanation of an inscription on an altar found here was controverted by Mr. Pegge, in *Gent. Mag.* Sept. 1759, p. 407. and by another writer in the Magazine for the following month, p. 451.

"*The Happiness of Retirement*, in an Epistle from Lancashire to a friend at court; to which is added an Encomium on the Town of Preston. Lond. 1733." An Account, and Views of the Guild Merchant of Preston, &c. with a list of the company at the halls, &c. Sept. 1762, were published that year, in 8vo.

"*The Guild Merchant of Preston*; or, Preston Guild Companion. Being an exact Representation, on nineteen Copper Plates, curiously Drawn and Engraved, of that ancient procession, with a Letter Press explanation. The whole laid down so easy and expressive, as to render it a proper help to those gentlemen and ladies resorting to Preston. Manchester, 1762," 12mo. Williams inv. and del. Darley, &c.

"*The Antiquities of Furness*; or, an Account of the Royal Abbey of St. Mary, in the vale of Nighshade, near Dalton; belonging to the Right Hon. Lord George Cavendish. By Thomas West. Lond. 1744," 4to.

"A new Edition, with considerable additions," was published by William Close, 1805, 8vo. This useful and judicious Topographical Volume I have already had occasion to refer to.

"*The wonderfull discoverie of witches in the County of Lancaster*, with the Trial of nineteen notorious Witches at Lancaster Assizes, Aug. 6, 1612, &c. &c. By Thomas Potts, Esq. 1613," 4to.

"*An History of the Original Parish of Whalley*, and honour of Clitheroe, in the Counties of Lancaster and York." By the Rev. T. D. Whitaker, 4to. 1800. Some Additions to this Work were published in 1806.

"*General View of the Agriculture of the County of Lancaster*; with Observations on the Means of its Improvement. From the communications of Mr. John Holt, of Walton. London. 8vo. 1795."

"*An Account of the beginning and erection of the Duchy and County Palatine of Lancaster*, and of the additions made thereunto; and of the honours, royalties, privileges, exemptions, which have been granted and confirmed unto John Duke of Lancaster, (called John of Gaunt). And also unto all the officers, tenants, and residents therein, and throughout all the Duchy possessions. And also of the honour of Tutbury; and how, and to whom the right of Inheritance, of and in the offices of Feodary and Bailiff, Escheator, Clerk of the Market, and Coroner doth belong and hath been executed therein.

Proper

#### LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

Proper to be known to all such as have any estates or interests in the said premises. Derby, printed 1735," 4to. pp. 15.

#### MANCHESTER.

"*The History of Manchester*, in four books. By John Whitaker, B.D. F.S.A. and Fellow of C.C.C. Oxford. Lond. 1771." 2 Vols. 4to. The Author afterwards republished the First Volume of this Work, with Additions and Corrections, in 2 Vols. 8vo. Though this Publication, by its Title, alludes only to Manchester, it may be considered rather as a Dissertation on British and Roman Antiquities in general, than as a local History. By some critics it has been denominated, 'An Antiquarian Romance;' and John Collier, who assumed the signature of Tim Bobbin, has satirized the book in '*Curious Remarks on the History of Manchester*.' By Muscipula, Sen." 12mo. 1771.

"*A True and Faithful Relation of the Besieging of the Towne of Manchester*, in Lancashire, upon Saturday the 24 of September, &c. &c. and the manner of raising the siege, having continued until Saturday the 1st of October, as it was credibly represented unto the House of Commons from a Godly Minister in the said Towne, &c. 1642," 4to.

A single sheet Account of *Manchester College*, with a Cut; printed by Bettenham, London; 1726.

"*Experiments and Observations on Water*, particularly on the hard pump-water of *Manchester*. By Thomas Percival, M.D. F.R.S. Lond. 1769," 8vo.

"A Description of the Country from thirty to forty miles round *Manchester*, &c. By J. Aikin, M.D. 4to. 1795," with Maps, Plans, and Views. A part of this Work only was written by Dr. Aikin, and the remainder is said to have been made up by the publisher.

"*The Manchester Guide*, a brief Historical Description of the Towns of Manchester and Salford, the Public Buildings, &c." 8vo. 1804, with a Plan of the Town. This Work, written and compiled by Mr. Aston, a bookseller of the Town, is a useful little Volume.

#### LIVERPOOL.

"*An Essay towards the History of Liverpool*, drawn up from Papers left by the late Mr. George Perry, and from other materials since collected by William Enfield. With Views of the Principal Public Structures, drawn by P. P. Burdett, and engraved by Edward Rooker; a Chart of the Harbour, with the sounding at low water spring tides. By P. P. Burdett, 1771; and a map of the environs, drawn from an actual survey taken in the year 1768, by William Yates and George Perry; engraved by Thomas Kitchen, 1769. Lond. 1774." Fol. The second Edition, with Additions, was published the same year.

"*Experiments on the Spaw, at Mount Sion, near Liverpool*; with a  
3 F 2 view



# LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

view to ascertain its contents, and to investigate its medicinal qualities. By James Worthington, surgeon. London. 1773," 8vo.

" Essay on the Liverpool Spa Water. By Thomas Houlston, M.D. Liverpool, 1773," 8vo.

" *A General and Descriptive History of the Ancient and Present State of the Town of Liverpool*; comprising a Review of its Government, Police, Antiquities, and Modern Improvements; the progressive increase of Streets, Squares, Public Buildings, and Inhabitants; together with a circumstantial account of the true causes of its extensive African Trade. The whole carefully compiled from original manuscripts, authentic records, and other warranted authorities. Second Edition. Liverpool, 1797," 8vo. Written by Mr. Wallace.

" *The Picture of Liverpool; or, Stranger's Guide.*" 12mo. 1805.

" The History of Liverpool, from the earliest records to the year 1806. By John Corry, and G. Perry," 4to. 1806, now publishing in Numbers.

" *Gore's Directory of Liverpool.*" 8vo. 1805.

" *Authentic Copies of the Several Acts of Parliament which have been passed at different times relative to the Docks, Port, and Harbour of Liverpool, and the Light Houses, &c. thereto belonging.* The first of which Acts, of the 8th Anne, created the Dock Estate. Liverpool, 1804," 8vo.

" *A Correct Translation of the Charter granted to the Burgesses of Liverpool, by King William III.; with Remarks and Explanatory Notes; to which are added, the Charter granted by King George II. the Order of the Common Council, and the Petition for obtaining that Charter; with the report of the Attorney and Solicitor-General thereon.* Liverpool, 1782," 8vo.

" *A Correct Translation of the Charters of Liverpool, with Remarks and Explanatory Notes.* By Philomidus, [Mr. Jos. Clegg, a Common Council Man], 1757."

" *A Familiar Medical Survey of Liverpool*, addressed to the Inhabitants; containing Observations on the Situation of the Town; the Qualities and Influence of the Air; the Employment and Manner of Living of the Inhabitants, &c. By W. Moss, Surgeon, 1781," 8vo.

" *The Liverpool Guide*, including a Sketch of the Environs. With a Map of the Town. By W. Moss, third Edition. Liverpool, 1799," 8vo.

" *Proceedings in an Action at Law*, brought by the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Burgesses of the Borough of Liverpool, for the recovery of a penalty under the bye-law made by them in Common Hall assembled, containing the Arguments of Council, as well at Nisi Prius, as upon the Motion of a New Trial in the Court of King's Bench. The proceedings on the Second Trial at Lancaster, and on the Motion in the Court of King's Bench for a Third Trial, with the Reasons at Large of the Honourable Justices of the said Court for granting the same.

Taken

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

Taken in short hand, by Mr. Gurney." Liverpool, printed for all the booksellers. 1796.

MAPS, PLANS, AND PRINTS.

*Survey of Lancashire*, in 8 Sheets. By Yates. Faden, 1l. 11s. 6d.

*A Correct Plan of Liverpool*, on 1 Sheet of Imperial Atlas Paper; shewing all the Streets, Lanes, and Allies, with the Docks and Basins, and a Short Historical Account of the Town. Taken in June, 1765, by John Eyes, and engraved by Thomas Kitchen.

*A Small Plan of the Town of Liverpool*, 1766, published by Williamson, in Liverpool.

"A Plan of the Town of Liverpool, with all the late improvements, from an Actual Survey made in the year 1790." Engraved by Tho. Conder, and published by John Gore, Liverpool.

*A Plan of the Towns of Manchester and Salford*. By R. Casson and John Berry, with Prospects of the Public Buildings, on 2 Sheets. B. Cole, Sc.

*A Map of the Rivers Mersey and Irwell, from the Bank-key to Manchester*. By Thomas Steers, 1712. J. Senex, Sc.

"A Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster with its Hundreds." By Richard Blome, dedicated to the Earl of Derby, then Lord Lieutenant of the County.

*A Plan of an intended Canal from Coln to Liverpool*. By P.P. Burdett. 1769.

*A Plan of the Duke of Bridgewater's Navigable Canal*, already made, with the extension proposed from Longford Bridge to Liverpool.

*A Plan of the Town of Liverpool* has been published in the British Atlas, as a companion to this Work: also, *A Plan of Manchester*, and *A Map of the County of Lancaster*.

PRINTS.

N. E. View of *Lancaster*, 1728, and S. W. View of its Castle, 1727. By Buck.

S. W. View of *Liverpool*, 1728. By Buck.

Two Views of *Liverpool*, viz. the Town and Harbour from the Bowling-green, near the Public Walk. By M. A. Rooker; Engraved by Edward Rooker.

S. Prospect of the *Charity School at Liverpool*. By Jos. Mollins, Engraved by Hulsberg.

S. W. View of *Manchester*. By Buck, 1728.

The Exchange of *Manchester*, built by Sir Oswald Mosely, 1729, now pulled down. Engraved by G. Thoratton, 1729.

#### LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

Elevation, Ground Plot, and Vaults of a new Church lately built at Manchester. By Mr. Byrom.

S. View of Preston. By Buck, 1728.

Buck also Engraved, in 1727, Views of *Cliithero, Pecke, Glouster*, and *Hornby* Castles; of *Furness, Whalley*, and *Cockersand* Abbeys; and of *Carlisle* and *Holland* Priors.

W. Front of Furness Abbey. Drawn by Hearne, 1778.

N. View, Do. Hearne and Ellis.

"N. E. View of Lancaster." Drawn by Farrington, R. A. and Engraved by Landseer, 1791."

View of the Aqueduct at Barton, built by the Duke of Bridgewater. Drawn by W. Orme, 1793; Large Aquatint Print.

"A North Prospect of St. Ann's Church in Manchester. By Jos. Smith, 1732."

"Haigh, Seat of Sir Roger Bradshaugh, Bt." Knyff, Del. Rep. & A Bird's Eye View.

"Lancaster Castle, View of the Front of." Hearne, Del. Watts, &c. 1778.

"S. Prospect of Prescott." Winstanley, Del. 1743. Toms, &c. In this the Summer House and Stand in Knosly Park are shewn.

#### LEICESTERSHIRE.

"*The Description of Leicestershire*; containing Matters of Antiquity, History, Armoury, and Genealogy." Published by William Burton, Esq. of Lindley, in this County, in folio, 1622. Re-published, and Corrected, by William Whittingham. Lynne, 1777, folio.

"The crying Sin of England, of not caring for the Poor; wherein Inclosure, viz. such as doth unpeople Towns, and common Fields, is arraigned, convicted, and condemned by the Word of God; being the chief Heads of two Sermons, preached at the Lecture at Lutterworth, in Leicestershire, in May last, and now published in Love to Christ, his Country, and the Poor. By John Mene, Minister of Knaptoft in Leicestershire," 1653, 4to.

"Bread for the Poor, and Advancement of the English Nation promised by Enclosure of the Wastes and Common Grounds of England. By Adam Gent," 1653.

"Considerations concerning Common Fields and Inclosures, Dialogues, digested into a deliberative Discourse between two supposed Friends, Philopeustus and Parrhesiastes, 1654," 4to.



LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

'To the last Pamphlet Mr. John Mene published "A Reply," which produced

"A Vindication of the Considerations concerning Common Fields and Inclosures, or a Rejoinder unto that Reply which Mr. Mene hath pretended to make unto those Considerations," 1656, 4to.

"*Vindication of a Regulated Inclosure*, wherein is plainly proved, that Inclosures of Commons in general, and the Inclosure of *Catthorpe* in particular, are both lawful and laudable." Joseph Lee, Minister of the Gospel, 1656, 4to.

All these Tracts are fully epitomized, by Mr. Nichols, in his Fourth Volume of the History of this County, under the Article of Catthorpe.

"A Letter from a Freeholder in Leicestershire to a Friend in London, occasioned by Mr. Byrd's appearing as a Candidate for that County, at the next Election of Members of Parliament, 1714-15."

Poll for the County, 1719—Ditto, 1775, 4to.—Poll for the Town of Leicester, 1775, 8vo.

"*A Brief Relation of a Wonderful Accident*, a Dissolution of the Earth in the Forest of Charnwood, about two miles from Loughborough in Leicestershire. Published by two Lovers of Art, J. C. and J. W. 1679." 4to. in 1 Sheet. Re-printed in the *Herleian Miscellany*, II. 178.—This was pronounced, by Mr. Nichols, to be an obscene Tract, scarcely worth notice.

"*Plan for a Public Library at Church Langton*." By the Rev. Mr. Hanbury of Northampton. Lond. 1760, 8vo.

"*History of the Rise and Progress of the Charitable Foundations at Church Langton*, together with the different deeds of trust of that establishment. By the Rev. Mr. Hanbury. London, printed for the Benefit of the Charity, 1767." 4to.

Dr. Hayes, of Oxford, being reflected on herein, published a Vindication of Himself in a Pamphlet, entitled

"*Anecdotes of the Five Music Meetings on account of the Charitable Foundations at Church Langton*, in which many misrepresentations and gross falsehoods, contained in a book, entitled, *The history of the above foundations*, are fully detected and confuted upon indubitable evidence; with an Appendix containing several original Letters, with Remarks, 1768," 8vo.

"*The contents, virtues, and uses of Nevil-Holt Spaw-water* further proved, illustrated, and explained from experiments and reason. With some histories of its signal effects in various diseases, collected by several hands. Also rules and directions for its more easy use and greater success. The second Edition, with several emendations and great additions. Lond. 1749," 8vo. with a postscript, printed 1750.

"*The Siege and taking of Leicester, May 1645*, by the King's Forces. By G. Miller, 1645," 4to.

"*The Taking of Leicester*, with the Marches of the King's Army since the taking thereof. Colonel Hastings made governor thereof. How they plundered the country; with the Fight between the North-

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

amptton Horse and the Prince's Foot, 1645." 4to. These two Tracts are described in Nichol's History of Leicester, Vol. III. Appendix. p. 46.

"*The Memoirs of the Town and County of Leicester*, displayed under an Epitome of the Reign of each Sovereign in the English History; containing the Antiquities of each, and the historical and biographical Relations at large; to which is added a brief supplementary Account of the present State of Leicestershire. By John Throsby. Leicester." 6 vols. 18mo. 1777.

"*A Great Fight at Market Harborough*, in Leicestershire, betwixt the Presbyterians and Independents, &c. London, 1647." 4to. By Thomas Blague.

"*An exact and true Relation of the wonderful Whirlwind*, on Saturday, June 2, about Four of the Clock in the Afternoon, at Worthington and Worthington Hall, and at Tongue, and at some other places in the County of Leicester, &c. London, 1660," 4to.

"*A faithful Account of the lamentable State of a young Man*, and his immediate Recovery upon obeying a Voice, commanding to arise and walk, &c. at Cropston, in Leicestershire, containing the plain Matter of Fact, without reflections, 1706." 8vo.

"*Major-general Poyntz's Letter to the Speaker*, of the storming and taking of all the Works and Stables of Belvoir Castle, &c. 1645." 4to.

"*Honesty yet to be found*, a poem, in praise of Leicestershire. By J. B. printed at Stamford, 1781." 4to.

The most copious and elaborate Topographical Work that has been published respecting this, or any other county, is

"*The History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester*. By John Nichols, F. S. A. Edinb. and Perth."

Vol. I. containing, The ancient History of the Town of Leicester.

Vol. II. Parts I. and II. The Hundred of Framland.

Vol. III. Parts I. and II. The Hundreds of East and West Goscote.

Vol. IV. Part I. The Hundred of Guthlaxton.

"*Select Views in Leicestershire*, from original Drawings; containing Seats of the Nobility and Gentry, Town Views and Ruins, accompanied with descriptive and historical Relations. By J. Throsby. Leicester, 1789." 4to.

"*The Supplementary Volume to the Leicestershire Views*; containing a Series of Excursions in the year 1790, to the Villages and Places of Note in the County. By John Throsby. To which are added, in notes, the most valuable Parts of Burton, Nichols, and other antecedent Writers on Leicestershire. London. 1790." 4to.

"*A Walk through Leicester*; being a Guide to Strangers; containing a Description of the Town, and its Environs, with Remarks upon its History and Antiquities. Leicester. 1804." 12mo. This rational little volume is from the pen of Miss Watts, a native of, and resident in, the town.

"A Collection

#### LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

"A Collection of the Charters and Directions given for any religious or other public Use to the Town of Market Harbrough, in the County of Leicester. By Rowland Rowse, 1768." 8vo.

"*The History and Antiquities of Hinckley*, in the County of Leicester; including the Hamlets of *Stoke*, *Dadlington*, *Wykin*, and *The Hyde*. With a large Appendix, 1782. By John Nichols, F. S. A. Edinb. and Perth, and Printer to the Society of Antiquaries in London." 4to. [Bibl. Top. Brit. No. VI.]

"*Collections towards the History and Antiquities of the Town and County of Leicester*. By J. Nichols, 1790." 4to. Bibl. Top. Brit.

"*The History and Antiquities of Claybrooke*. By the Rev, Aulay Macaulay, M. A. 1791." 8vo.

#### MAPS AND PLANS.

A Plan of *Leicester*, with a South Prospect, Thomas Roberts, 1741.

Survey of *Leicestershire*, John Whyman: four sheets, with a Plan of *Leicester*.

#### PRINTS.

Two Views of *Dunnington Cliff*, on the Trent, 1745. Vivares.

View of the Parish Church of *Husband's Bosworth*, as damaged by a Storm, July 6, 1755. S. Turner.

*Belvoir Castle*, North West and South West Prospects of, by Badeslade and Toms, 1731.

Buck engraved, in 1730, Views of *Belvoir* and *Ashby-de-la-Zouch* Castles:—of *Olveston* and *Elvesscroft* Priors:—and of *Grace-Dieu* Nunnery.

#### LINCOLNSHIRE.

"*An historical Account of Lincoln and the Cathedral*\*; with a List of remarkable Occurrences that have happened in Lincoln since the Conquest." 12mo.

"The

\* The county of Lincoln, and its city, have been much slighted by the topographer and antiquary: yet the whole furnishes many interesting and very curious subjects, adapted to the pursuits of each. Many noblemen and gentlemen of the county appear very desirous to promote a general history of this extensive shire; but the laboriousness of the task seems to deter any person, who is properly qualified, from undertaking it. Another great obstacle arises from the conduct of one or two individuals who possess the chief documents and materials, but who have denied to grant the use of them for the public. Under such circumstances we must despair of seeing a complete topographical history of *Lincolnshire* for the present. A CONCISE HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY is, however, preparing for the press, and will be published by Mr. Brooke, of Lincoln.



# LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

“*The History and Antiquities of Lincoln Cathedral; containing an exact copy of all the ancient monumental inscriptions there (in number 163), as they stood in 1641, most of which were soon after torn up, or otherwise defaced; collected by Robert Sanderson, S. T. P. (afterwards bishop of that church), and compared with, and corrected by, Sir W. Dugdale's MS. Survey. Communicated by Nich. Lambert, L. L. D. Fellow of St. Peter's, Cambridge,*” is inserted in Peck's Desid. Cur. ii. b. viii. No. 1. with Notes and Additions by the Editor.

“*An historical Account of the Antiquities in the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, Lincoln; abridged from William of Malmesbury, Mathew Paris, Prince. Sir W. Dugdale, Rapin, Bishop Sanderson, and several other Authors in MS. Compiled to gratify the curious Inspector of this magnificent Pile of Building. Linc. [1771].*” 8vo.

A Roman Sudatory, discovered thirteen feet under ground, near the west end of this Cathedral, February 16, 1739, was published by the Society of Antiquaries. Mr. T. Sympson, an officer of the church, gave an account of it in No. 461, p. 855, of the Philosophical Transactions, in a Letter to B. Willis.

“*Statutes and Constitutions for the Government of an Infirmary, or Hospital, to be established at Lincoln, for the sick and lame Poor of that County and City. 1743.*” 8vo.

There is scarcely a town in England that has been more illustrated by local historians than Stamford, as is exemplified by the following list of books.

“*The Survey and Antiquities of the Towne of STAMFORD, in the County of Lincolne, with an account of its ancient foundation, grants, privileges, and several donations thereunto belonging; also a list of the aldermens' names, and the time when they were chosen, with the names of ten lord mayors (of the hon. city of London) borne in the foresaid county of Lincolne: written by Richard Butcher, Gent. sometimes towne-clarke of the same towne. Lond. 1646.*” 4to.

“*The Survey and Antiquity of the Town of Stamford, in the County of Lincoln. Lond. 1717.*” 8vo.

“*Academia tertia Anglicana; or the Antiquarian Annals of Stamford, in Lincoln, Rutland, and Northampton shires; containing the history of the university, monasteries, gilds, churches, chapels, hospitals, and schools there; with memoirs of the lords, magistrates, founders, benefactors, clergy, and other ancient inhabitants: interspersed with many new and curious particulars touching the Britons, Romans, Saxons, Danes, French, Jews, church-history, parliaments, councils, pleadings, occurrences in the barons' wars, and the wars between the two houses of York and Lancaster; as also the acts and ancestry of divers lord chancellors, knights of the garter and bath, abbots of Peterborough, priors of Durham, bishops of Lincoln, and sundry other famous persons and ancient families; being not only a particular history of Stamford, and several other old towns, but an uncommon series of civil and ecclesiastical affairs under each reign, gathered from the best accounts, print and MS. with a large chronological*”

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

nological table of contents, and variety of sculpture, in fourteen books. Lond. 1727."

"*An Essay on the Ancient and Present State of Stamford*, its situation, erection, dissolution, and re-edification; ancient and present sports, endowments, benefactions, churches, monuments, and other curiosities; monasteries, colleges, schools, and hospitals; and some account of a monastic life; when the monks first appeared in the world; what orders of them were settled here, and the time of their coming into England. The whole gathered from the best printed accounts, as well as original MSS. particularly the registers of Durham and Peterborough; the rolls in the Tower, and the Cotton library; old writings belonging to Brown's hospital, the corporation books, Mr. Foster's papers, Stevens's Supplement to Dugdale's Monasticon, and many other private repositories. Stamford, 1726." 4to. By F. Howgrave.

"*The new State of the Charity-School at Stamford*, in the County of Lincoln. Printed at Stamford. 1728." 4to.

"A Discourse concerning the great Benefit of Drayning and Imbanking, and of Transportation by Water, within the County. Presented to the High Court of Parliament, by J. L. 1641." 4to.

"The State of the Case concerning the late Earl of Lindsey's drayning the Fennes between *Borne, Boston, and Lincoln*."

"The Case concerning the late Earle of Lindsey's drayning the Fennes between *Borne, Boston, and Lincoln*, more fully stated." 4to.

"Sir William Killigrew, his Answer to the Fenne Mens' Objections against the Earle of Lindsey, his drayning in Lincolnshire. Lond. 1649." 4to.

"The report of Messrs. Grundy, Edwards, and Smeaton, Engineers, concerning the present ruinous State of the River *Witham*, and the Navigation thereof. With Proposals and Schemes for restoring and improving the same; and a Plan and Estimates of the Expences," was printed at Lincoln, 1761. 4to.

"Proposals, or Head of a Bill, for restoring and preserving the outfall of the River *Witham*, of draining the Fens thereof, and of the Navigation thereon. Lincoln. 1769." 4to.

"*Lamentable News out of Lincolnshire*, of the overflowing of Waters breaking from the Seas, which drowned five Villages, &c. Nov. 1613." 1614.

"A true and impartial Relation of the great Damages done by the late great Tempest, and overflowing of the Tide upon the Coast of *Lincolnshire* and *Norfolk*, &c." 1671.

"Thunder, haile, and lightning from heaven against certaine covetous persons, inhabitants of *Humerston*, Lincolnshire, five miles from Grimsby, thought to be a just punishment from God in the behalf of the poore, the 3d of July last, 1610; how the corne was destroyed, the like never heard of in any age, only one man's estate preserved, who gave them reliefe, as it was justified before the knights and justices of the countie, at the sessions held at Lowth, the 10th day of July; with the lamentable end of John Cornish, his

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

his wife, and two children, who were most strangely consumed in a day at Stow in Staffordshire, 9 May, 1616." 4to.

"Lincolnshire, a Poem. Bury St. Edmund, 1720." Fol.

"*The Prospect*: a Lyric Essay. By Martin Scriblerus, jun. Lond. 1769." 4to.

"A Short Tour in the Midland County of England, performed in the summer of 1772; together with an account of a similar excursion, undertaken September, 1774." Lond. 1775. 8vo.

The former part of this publication had been previously (but incorrectly) printed in the *Gent. Mag.* for May, June, July, and August, 1774.

"The matter of agistment tithe of unprofitable stock in the case of the Vicar of *Holbeach*; as decreed by the Right Honourable Lord Chief Baron Parker, Baron Smythe, &c. in the Court of Exchequer, in Michaelmas term, 1768. In a Letter to the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of Norwich. By Cecil Willis, D. D. Vicar of Holbeach, and Prebendary of the Cathedral Church of Lincoln. Lond. 1776," 4to.

"Figures of Mosaic Pavement, discovered at *Horkstow, Lincolnshire*. by S. Lysons. Part I. of *Reliquæ Romanæ*, with Plates," fol.

"Report concerning the Drainage of *WILDMORE FEN*, and of the *EAST and WEST FENS*. By *John Rennie*, Civil Engineer, and F.R.S. F.S.A. F.R.S.E. F.L.S. &c. 4to." 1800. A Second Report, by Do.

"Collections for the History of the Town and Soke of *Grantham*; containing authentic Memoirs of Sir Isaac Newton, now first published, from the original manuscript in the possession of the Earl of Portsmouth. By Edmund Turnor, Esq. F.R.S. F.S.A." 4to. 1807.

This Work contains a Map of the Soke, plans of all the Churches, and other Engravings. It is printed uniformly with *Howlet's Select Views of the County of Lincoln*, and intended to accompany that work.

The following Publication is printed at the expence of a private Gentleman, but is not published for sale. Such conduct evinces a liberality of disposition which is eminently worthy of imitation; and were many of the affluent clergy, nobility, and gentry to follow this laudable example, it would prove interesting to every lover of Topography, honourable to themselves, and very generally useful.

"A *Topographical Account of the Parish of SCAMPTON* in the County of Lincoln, and of the Roman Antiquities lately discovered there; together with Anecdotes of the Family of Bolles." By the Rev. Cayley Illingworth, A.M. 4to. 1808.

"A Selection of Views in the County of Lincoln, comprising the principal Towns and Churches, the remains of Castles and Religious Houses, and Seats of the nobility and gentry; with Topographical and Historical Accounts of each View." 4to.

This Work was commenced, and most of the Plates were drawn and engraved by B. Howlet, a young man who is a native of the County, and who displayed some judgment in the selection and execution of many of the subjects at the commencement of the Work. The descriptions, which are very concise, were mostly furnished by the liberality of Mr. W. Brand, and other gentlemen of the County.

"A Short



LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

"*A Short Account of LOUTH CHURCH*, with an Introductory Sketch of the Progress of Architecture in England. By T. Espin," 4to. 1807.

The same Gentleman has published *two Views of Louth Church*.

MAPS, PLANS, &c.

*Small Map of this County* with part of Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire, and a View of Hull, and the Humber. Engraved by Hollar.

*Another*, 1793, with Dr. Stukeley's Perpetual Tide-Table for the Washes. By Bowen.

*Survey of the County*, on Six Sheets. By Armstrong. This is considered a very inaccurate and superficial Map.

"*Map of S. Holland in Lincolnshire*, the Hundred of Wisbech in Cambridgeshire, and the N. Level, shewing the course of the rivers, and other principal drains of sewers, with their goots, sluices, and outfalls, 1726."

*Plan of the Borough and Port of Boston*, with Views of the Market Cross and Church. Surveyed, 1741, by R. Hall.

*Plan of the Town of Louth*. Surveyed and drawn by T. Espin, of that town, 1808.

"*Plan of the River Witham*, and adjoining fens and low grounds from Lincoln to Boston, with the new works proposed to be executed thereon for draining the said fens and low grounds, and restoring the navigation of this river. By J. Grundy, Surveyor and Engineer."

PRINTS.

*Lincoln Cathedral*, E. S. and W. sides. King.

—————, S. and W. Harris.

—————, W. front. Vivares. From a drawing 1750. By J. Baker.

Buck engraved, in 1726, Views of the Bishop's Palace, the Castle, and John of Gaunt's Palace, Lincoln: also Views of *Tattersal* and *Somerton* Castles; of *Torksey* and *Scrivelsby* Halls; of *Thornton* College; of *Tupholme* Priory; *Moore* Tower; *Temple Brewer* Church; and of *Barling*, *Louth-park*, and *Kirksted* Abbies: and in 1743, Views of *Lincoln* and *Stamford*.

Views of *Tattersal* Castle, and *Barling* Abbey. Millecent and Kirkall.

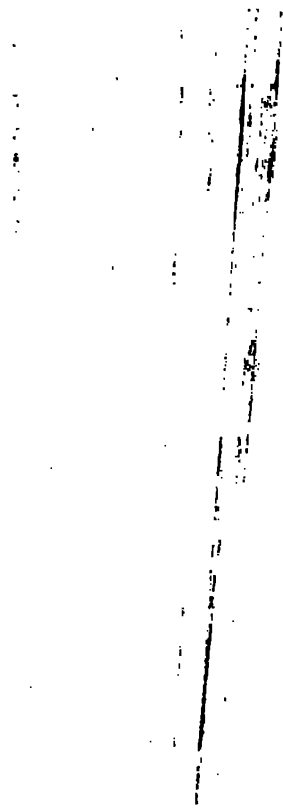
Bird's-eye View, and three other Views and Plans of *Belton* House, then the seat of Lord Tyrconnel. Badeslade and Harris. One Sheet.

View of Lord Tyrconnel's New Water-works, &c. at *Belton*. Vivares. 1749.

S. View of *Gainsborough*. Vertue. 1747.

S. View of *Hatherthorp*, the seat of Sir Michael Newton. Badeslade and Toms.

Mr. Buckler has published Views of *Boston Church*, the *Iron Bridge* at *Boston*, and of *Lincoln Cathedral*.



# INDEX

TO THE NINTH VOLUME OF THE

## BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND AND WALES:

The principal Abbies, Castles, Churches, Encampments, Monuments, Pictures, Portraits, Pories, Roman Stations, and Antiquities, described in this Volume, will be found referred to under one of these heads.

☞ The MARKET TOWNS are distinguished by small Capitals; the Villages by Italics.

### A

**ABBIES** in *Lancashire*, Furness, 85-90; Cockersand, 105; Whalley, 155-158, 160, 161: in *Leicestershire*, at Leicester, 343; Garendon, 404; Ouston, 454: in *Lincolnshire*, at Barlings, 656, 657; at Newhouse, 681; at Thornton, 685, 686; at Louth Park, 701; at Sixhill, 704; at Bardney, 706; at Kirkstead, 708; at Hagneby, 716; at Reveshy, 722; at Swinehead, 734; at Croyland, 745-749; at Bourn, 781; at Grimsthorpe, 791.

Ad-Abum, Roman station, 678.

Adlington Hall, seat, house, and pictures, Lan. 175.

Agriculture, Mr. Bakewell's improvements in, 384-392.

Aidburgh Hall, seat, Lan. 216.

Alcancoats, seat, Lan. 141.

Aldringham Hall, seat, Lan. 91.

ALFORD, town, Lin. privileges, church, school, 715, 716.

Algarkirk, church, Lin. 733.

Alkington, seat, Lan. 286.

Allerton Hall, seat, Lan. 215.

Alt, river, Lan. 22.

Alvingham, monastery, Lin. 703.

Amounderness, hundred, Lan. 105 to 118.

Ancaster, village, Lin. Roman sta-

tion at Ancaster, monuments of the dukes of, 761.

Ancholme, river, Lin. 560.

Ancoats Hall, seat, Lan. 285.

ANECDOTES of Judge Fell and George Fox, 79, 80; Martin Swartz, 80; Archbishop Sandys, 95; Sir John Gurlington, 99; James Earl of Arran and Duke of Hamilton, 103; Rev. William Whitaker, 147, 148; Thomas Talbot, 172; Standish family, 174; Sir Jonas Moore, 176; Edward Chisenhole, 177; John Palmer, 207; George Stubbs, 212; John Middleton, 214; Thomas Eccleston, 224; Margaret Countess of Richmond, 230; Earls of Derby, 229-234; Lady Bradshaigh, 238; Jeremiah Markland, 239; Rev. Mr. Wood, 241; John Blackburne, Esq. 243; Dr. Percival, 249; Humphrey Chetham, 261-263; Sir Richard Arkwright, 278; John Byrom, Thomas Falkner, 284; Sir Ashton Lever, 286; John Collier, 302-304; Mr. Robert Bakewell, 325-326; 383-392; Dr. Richard Farmer, 364; Bishop Beveridge, 368; William Lord Hastings, 374; Bishop Hall, 376; Francis Beaumont, dramatic poet, 378, 379; Lady Jane Grey, 396, 397; William Lilly, 402-404; Bishop



# INDEX.

shop Latimer, 467; George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, 410-412; Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, 414; Bishop Skeffington, 421; Sir Geoffrey Palmer, 434; Rev. William Hanbury, 440-446; Walter de Langton, 447, 448; Thomas Staveley, 448; David Papillon, 449; Rev. William Cave, 454; Sir Thomas Cave, 462; John Wickliffe, 468; Thomas Simpson, 477; William Barton, 482; Robert Barton, 483; Dr. Richard Pulteney, 520, 521; Dr. Willis, 655; Dr. Makerel, 657, 695; Sir William Monson, 657; Sir John Monson, 658; Thomas Sutton, Esq. 662; Lord Burgh, William de Gainsborough, Bishop Patrick, 674; John Walsh, Archbishop Whitgift, 691; Adrian Scrope, loyalist, 702; Adrian Scrope, republican, 703; Cardinal Langton, Dr. William Langton, Bennett Langton, Esq. 714; Bishop Wainfleet, 719; John Fox, martyrologist, 732; Dr. Stukeley, 737-739; Maurice Johnson, 744; Bishop Fox, 764; Sir Isaac Newton, 774; Lord Burleigh, 783; Dr. Dodd, 784; the Bertie family, 789; Dr. Tighe, 791.  
*Appleby*, village, Lei. 476.  
 Aqueduct bridge, at Lancaster, described, 68.  
 Architecture, ecclesiastical, in Lin. essay on, 539-542.  
 Arkwright, Sir Richard, his improvements in the cotton-spinning machines, &c. 278.  
 Arran, James Earl of, anecdotes of, 103.  
 ASHEY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, small town, Lei. 373; memoirs of William Lord Hastings, 374; church, 375; finger pillory, monuments of the Huntingdon family, Bishop Hall, a native, 376.  
 Ashhurst Beacon, view, Lan. 223.  
 Ashton-under-Line, canal, Lan. description of, 26.  
 ASHTON-UNDER-LINE, town, Lan. riding the black lad, custom of, church, 306.  
 Ashton Hall, seat, Lan. park, pictures, memoirs of James Earl of Arran, fourth Duke of Hamilton, 102-104.

*Ashtaby*, village, Lin. 780.  
 Ashcoe, East and West, wapentakes, Lin. 669-671.  
 Aswerby, village, Lin. 764.  
 Aswardhurn, wapentake, Lin. 763-765.  
 Atherton Hall, seat, Lan. shower of seeds, 241.  
 Aveland, wapentake, Lin. 780 to 787.  
 Aukborough, Lin. a Roman castrum, 677.  
 Avon, river, Lei. 322.  
 Axholme, river island, Lin. 675.

## B

Bakewell, Robert, an eminent grazier, anecdotes of, 325, 326; 383-392.  
 Bannoavallum, Roman station, 713.  
 Bardney Abbey, Lin. 706.  
 Barnside, seat, Lan. 141.  
 Barrow, village, Lin. castle, barrows, 683.  
 Barrow-upon-Soar, large village, Lei. 367, 368; Bishop Beveridge, a native, 368; lime-stone, 369; petrifications at, 370.  
 BARTON-UPON-HUMBER, town, Lin. fortifications, ancient history, manor, courts, St. Peter's church, 682; St. Mary's church; trade and improvements of, 683.  
 Baxhall, seat, Lan. 166.  
 Beaumanor, seat, Lei. 392; memoirs of William Heyrick, Esq. 393; manor house, 394; portraits, 395.  
 Beaumont Hall, seat, Lan. 69.  
 Beaumont, Francis, dramatic poet, anecdotes of, 378, 379.  
 Belfield, seat, Lan. 302.  
 Belleau, village, Lin. abbey, seat, church, 716.  
 Belton, village, Lei. 377.  
 Belton House, seat, Lin. 771.  
 BELVOIR CASTLE, seat, Lei. 505; memoirs of its successive possessors, 514; mansion, 514; pictures, observations on, 515, 516; list of the principal, 516-518.  
 Bennington Long, priory, Lin. 762, 763.  
 Belonæ, Roman station, 513.  
 Bettisloe, Wapentake, Lin. 787-791.  
 Beveridge, Bishop, anecdotes of, 368.  
 Bigland, seat, Lan. 74.  
 Billinge-Hill, Lan. height of, 124.  
 Blackburn,

# INDEX.

Blackburn, hundred, Lan. 118 to 172.  
**BLACKBURN**, town and parish of, Lan. 119; churches, chapels, schools, 120; manufacture of calicoes, process and great extent of, 121, 122.  
 Blackpool, watering-place, Lan. 116.  
*Blackrode*, village, Lan. opinions respecting a Roman station at, 240.  
 Bleasdale, forest, Lan. 13.  
 Blow-wells, extraordinary fountains, Lin. 692.  
 Blythe Hall, seat, Lan. 223.  
 Bobbin, Tim, account of, 302.  
 Bolingbroke, Soke, Lin. 719-724.  
**BOLINGERKE**, town, Lin. ancient castle, birth-place of Henry IV. 720.  
**BOLTON**, or **BOLTON-LE-MOORS**, town, Lan. 293; manufactures, 294; origin of British muslins, 295; bleaching, 295; increase of population, church, chapels, &c. 296.  
 Boothby Graffio, wapentake, Lin. 753-755.  
 Borough English, peculiar law, 807.  
**BOSTON**, town, Lin. 726; borough, charters, corporation, 727; ancient history and trade, present state, religious houses, 728; church, architecture, 729; tower of, other places of worship, 730; schools, dispensary, iron bridge, 731; memoirs of John Fox, 732.  
**BOSWORTH, MARKET**, town, Lei. 476; memoirs of Thomas Simpson, 477, 478.  
 Bosworth Hall, seat, Lei. 478.  
**BOSWORTH FIELD**, battle of, historical account of, and observations on, 478-482.  
*Bottesford*, village, Lei. 500; church, 501; monuments to eight Earls of Rutland, 501-504.  
**BOURNE**, town, Lin. castle, 781; town-hall, canal, Lord Burleigh and Dr. Dodd natives, 783.  
 Bowland, forest, Lan. 167, 168.  
 Bradley Haverstoe, wapentake, Lin. 688-692.  
 Bradley priory, Lei. 431.  
 Bradgate park, Lei. 395; mansion, chapel, monument, 396; memoirs of Lady Jane Grey, a native, 396, 397.  
 Brank, an instrument of punishment for women, 148.  
 Braunston Hall, seat, Lei. 488.  
*Bredon*, village, Lei. 379; lime-mountain at, 380; church, 381.  
 Vol. IX.

**BREMETONACE**, Roman station-101.  
 Bridgewater's canal described, 26-29.  
 Briercliffe, township, Lan. encampments at, 149.  
 Brigantes, ancient inhabitants of Lancashire, 3.  
*Brinkhill*, village, Lin. 713.  
 Brocklesby Park, seat, Lin. 685; picture gallery, paintings, mausoleum, 685, 686.  
 Brooksby, seat, Lei. 410; George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, a native, 410-412.  
**BROUGHTON**, a small town, Lan. 93.  
 Broughton Hall, Lan. 287.  
 Browsholme, seat, Lan. 167; scenery, 168; encampment, antiquities, mansion-house, library, original seal of the commonwealth, 169; hall, portraits, 170.  
 Buckingham, George Villiers, Duke of, memoirs of, 410-412.  
 Bull-running, custom of, 807.  
 Burgh family, anecdotes of, 673, 674.  
**BURGH**, town, Lin. Roman castrum, tumuli, 717, 718.  
 Burleigh, Lord, memoirs of, 783.  
**BURNLEY**, populous town, Lan. 141; Roman remains, chapel, monuments, school, 142, 143.  
*Burrow*, village, Lei. 431.  
 Burrow Hill, encampment, observation on by Leland, Stukeley, &c. 431-433.  
 Burscough, priory, Lan. 220.  
 Burton Gate, seat, Lin. 662.  
*Burton Pedwardine*, village, Lin. 763.  
 Burton Lazars, hospital, Lei. bath, chapel, 498.  
 Burton, William, antiquary, memoirs of, 482, 483.  
 Burton, Robert, remarks on the writings of, 483, 484.  
*Burwell*, village, Lin. 701.  
 Burwell Park, seat, Lin. 701; birth-place of Sarah Duchess of Marlborough, 702.  
**BURY**, town, Lan. castle, 291; cotton manufacture, 292; schools, 293.  
 Busts at Ince-Blundel, 310-312.  
 Byrom, John, anecdotes of 284.

## C

Calicoe, manufacture, process, and great extent of, 122; first made in 1772, 280.

# INDEX.

Canals in Lancashire, 23-33; in Lei.  
322, 323; at Louth, Lin. 700.  
Candleshoe, wapentake, Lin. 717-  
719.  
Cannel coal, utensils made of 238.  
Car-dyke, Roman canal, Lin. 526.  
Carleton, village, Lei. mansion, anec-  
dotes of Sir Geoffrey Palmer,  
church, 434.  
CARTMEL, town, Lan. antiquity of,  
72, 73; priory, church, monu-  
ments, 73, 74; chapelries, build-  
ings, school, well, 74.  
Calceworth, wapentake, Lin. 715-  
717.  
CASTLES, Lancaster, 57-65; Dal-  
ton, 82; Gleanston, 90; Fouldrey,  
92; Hornby, 99; Thurland, 99;  
Greenhaugh, 114; Leicester, 340-  
342; Mountsorrell, 365, 366;  
Belvoir, 505-518; in Lincolnshire,  
533; Lincoln, 647; Torksey, 660;  
Haxey, 676; Barrow, 683; at  
Tattersall, 709; Somerton, 754;  
Sleaford, 758.  
Castle Bytham, village, Lin. castle,  
788.  
Castle Head, seat, Lan. 96.  
CASTOR, town, Lin. Roman wall,  
687; castle hill, inscription, sin-  
gular tenure, 688.  
Cattley, priory, 757.  
Cat-thorpe, village, Lei. Dowbridge,  
Roman station, antiquities, en-  
campments, 460, 461.  
Causennæ, the Roman station of,  
761, 762.  
Cave, Sir Thomas, anecdotes of,  
462.  
Chadderton Hall, seat, Lan. 289.  
Chamber Hall, seat, Lan. 293.  
Charnwood Forest and Hills, Lei.  
328, 329.  
Charters, of Leicester, 546, 547.  
Chetham, Humphrey, memoir of,  
school founded by, 261-263.  
Childwall, village, Lan. 213.  
Chisenhale, or Chisnal Hall, seat,  
Lan. 177.  
Chisenhale, Edward, Esq. memoirs  
of, 177.  
CHORLEY, town, Lan. mills, facto-  
ries, police, minerals, grammar-  
school, 173; almshouse, &c. 174.  
Chowbent, chapelry, anecdote of  
Mr. Wood, dissenting minister,  
241.

CHURCHES described, Lancaster,  
63; Cartmel, 73; Ulverston, 78;  
Dalton, 82; Burnley, 142; Wal-  
ley, 159; Liverpool, 202-205;  
Sefton, 217; Ormskirk, 218; Wi-  
gan, 236; Winwick, 244; Man-  
chester, 262-264; Bolton, 266;  
at Leicester, St. Nicholas, 348;  
St. Mary, 349, 350; All Saints,  
351, 352; St. Martin's, 352-358;  
at Loughborough, 373; at Ashby-  
de-la-Zouch, 375; at Bredon, 381;  
at Syston, 422; at Sileby, 423; at  
Harborough, 428; at Halling, 438;  
at Horninghold, 439; at  
Kibworth, 440; at Norton, 451;  
at Noseley, 453; at Lutterworth,  
468; at Huckley, 475; in Lincoln,  
St. Bennets, 642; St. Mary de  
Wigford, St. Peter at Gowts, 645;  
St. Martin's, 644; at Stow, 665,  
667, 668; at Gainsborough, 672;  
at Barton upon Humber, St. Pe-  
ters and St. Mary's, 682, 683; at  
Grimby, 690; at Clee, 691; at  
Market Rasen and Middle Rasen,  
693; at Louth, 696-698; at Tat-  
tersall, 711; at Burgh, 717; at  
Boston, 729, 730; at Kirton, 736;  
at Spalding, 742; at Croyland,  
748; at Sleaford, 759.  
Claybrook, parish, Lei. Great and  
Little, 462; High Cross, a Roman  
station, tumulus, 465, 464.  
Cloughton Hall, seat, Lan. 115.  
Clee, village, Lin. church, font, 691.  
Cleethorpe, township, Lin. a summer  
resort for sea-bathing, 692.  
CLITHERO, Lan. history and descent  
of the honor of, 127-131; chapel,  
etymology, privileges, 132; an-  
cient town-hall, school, 133.  
Cliver, township, Lan. singular  
aperture in, 145; minerals, both  
of prey, coins, 146.  
Coccium, Roman station, 8.  
Cockersand Abbey, Lan. ancient his-  
tory, and remains of, 105.  
Cockington, village, Lin. anecdotes  
of Scrope, 702; and of Scrope,  
one of the judges of Charles I. 703.  
Coleby Hall, seat, Lin. gardens, tem-  
ples, 756.  
Cole-Orton, village, Lei. coal mines,  
362.  
Collier John, or Tim Bobbin, some  
account of, 302.



# INDEX.

**COLNE**, town, Lan. situation of, 138; Roman coins found at, chapel, singular inscription, 139; manufactures, 140.  
**Colterworth**, village, Lin. 774; memoirs of Sir Isaac Newton, a native, 774-776.  
**Conishead**, seat, Lan. scenery of, 78, 79.  
**Coniston**, Lan. lake, village, and fells, 93.  
 ————Hall, seat, Lan. ib.  
**Commerce of Liverpool and Bristol** compared, 196.  
**Coritani**, ancient inhabitants of Leicestershire, 313; Do. of Lincolnshire, 324.  
**Corringham Wapentake**, Lin. 671-675.  
**Cossington**, village, Lei. 412.  
**Cotton Manufactures**, rise and process of, 274-282.  
**Cotton-spinning machines**, invention of and improvements in, 277-278.  
**Cotton-printing**, process of, 136-138.  
**Crake**, river, Lan. 20.  
**Cressey-Hall**, seat, Lin. chapel, 754; heronry, natural history of the heron, 735.  
**Crocolana**, Roman station, 753.  
**Cromwell**, Earl of Essex, anecdotes of, 414.  
**Cromwell**, Oliver, letter from, giving an account of the Battle of Naseby, 429, 430.  
**Cross-Hall**, seat, Lan. 223.  
**Crosses**: at Mountsorell, 367; at Rothley, 407; at Shepeshed, 408; at Frisby, 413; at Rakedale, 419.  
**CROYLAND**, town, Lin. ancient history, 745; abbey, 746; destruction by fire and enthusiastic renovation, 747; conventual church, 748; triangular bridge, 749, 750; ancient statue, 750; present state of the town, crosses, 751.  
**Cuerdale-Lodge**, seat, Lan. 125.

## D

**Dalby on the Wolds**, village, Lei. spring, 412.  
**DALTON**, small town, Lan. 81; charter, castle, church, peculiar tenure, 82; plague at, 83; George Romney, painter, a native, 83-84.  
**Darwin-bank**, seat, Lan. 125.  
**Decoys for wild-fowl**, 725.

**DEEPING MARKET**, town, Lin. ancient history, Dr. Robert Tighe a native, 791.  
**Deeping**, *St. James*, village, Lin. priory, 792.  
**Deeping Fen**, district, Lin. 792. acts respecting, 793.  
**Denton**, village, Lin. mosaic pavement, church, 773.  
**Denton House**, seat, Lin. 774.  
**Derby**, third Earl of, his magnificent funeral, 219. n.  
 ————, Charlotte Countess of, heroism of, 220-221.  
 ————, first eight earls of, portraits and anecdotes of, 229-234.  
**Diseworth**, village, Lei. William Lilly, a native, 402.  
**Dishley**, village, Lei. 383; Robert Bakewell, grazier, 383-392.  
**Docks of Liverpool and London** compared, 190.  
**Dodd**, Dr. Wm. account of, 784.  
**DONNINGTON**, town, Lin. market, fairs, new road, school, population, antiquities, 733.  
**Donnington Castle**, village, Lei. hospital, 398.  
**Donnington Park**, seat, Lei. 398; portraits, pictures, 400-401; Donnington Cliff, 402.  
**Dorchester**, ancient see and bishops of, 533-534.  
**Douglas river**, Lan. navigation of, 29.  
**Dragon-slayers**, definition of, 694.  
**Drainage in Lincolnshire**, process of, 556-588.  
**Drystoke Church**, monument in, 438-439.  
**Dudden**, river Lancashire, 20.  
**Dukenfield Lodge**, seat, Lan. 307.  
**Dunal-Mill-Hole**, Lan. cavern, described, 100.  
**Dunkenhaigh**, township, Lan. 171.  
**Dunston Pillar**, Lin. 755.  
**Duxbury Hall**, seat, Lan. 175.  
**Dymocks**, Champions of England, 707.

## E

**Eagle**, commandry of knights templars, 753.  
**Earl's Shilton**, manor, Lei. 486.  
**EAST GOSCOTE**, hundred, Lei. 409 to 423; townships and livings in, 409-410.

# INDEX.

Eccles, parish, Lan. increase of population, 304.  
 Edenham, village, Lin. church, monuments of the Bertie family, 788.  
 Egg-syke, farm, Lan. beautiful scenery of, 125.  
 Elloe Wapentake, Lin. 736-751.  
 Elsham, hospital, Lin. 680.  
 Emmott-Hall, seat, Lan. cross, spring, 141.  
 ENCAMPMENTS; at Aldringham, 91; Overborough, 101; Briercliffe, 149; at Harborough, 427; at Burrow, 431-433; at Hallaton, 437; at Kibworth, 439; at Lubenham, 448-449; at Cat-thorpe, 460-461; at Ratby, 487; in Lin. 533; at Lincoln, 594; at Castle Hills near Gainsborough, 674; at Yarborough camp, 685; at South Ormsby, 714; at Burgh, 717; at Revesby, 723; at Gedney Hill, 740; at Ingoldsby, 763; at Folkingham, 786.  
 Enderby-Hall, seat, Lei. 488.  
 Epitaph; on Joseph Wright, gardener, 352.  
 Epworth, town, Lin. 676; trade, market, fairs, 677.  
 Eresby, ancient seat, Lin. 722.  
 Ermin-Street, Roman road, described, 524.  
 Estwaite-water, or lake, Lan. 95.

## F

Fairfield, settlement of Moravians, 307.  
 Falkner, Thomas, anecdotes of, 284.  
 Farmer, Dr. Richard, anecdotes of, 364.  
 Fens, rivers, drainings, &c. in Lincolnshire, 556-588.  
 Finger pillory, a peculiar mode of punishment, 376.  
 Flexwell Wapentake, Lin. 757-761.  
 Flookborough, village, Lan. formerly a town, 76.  
 FOLKINGHAM, town, Lin. encampment at, 785.  
 Fox, George, anecdotes of, 79-80.  
 Fox, John, memoirs of, 752.  
 Foxholes, a seat, Lan. 302.  
 Foss, Roman road, 524, 514-515.  
 Fouldrey, pile of Lan. island, castle, wells, 92.  
 FRAMLAND, Hundred, Lei. 489 to

518; townships and livings in, 489-490.  
 Frisby, village, Lei. crosses, 413.  
 Fulwood, forest, Lan. 13.  
 Furness Abbey, Lan. 85-86; present state, ruins, scenery, 87-88; besieged in the civil war, 89-90.  
 Furness, district of, Lan. described, 71-72.  
 Furness Fells, Lan. description of, 97.

## G

GAINSBOROUGH, town, Lin. 671; trade, church, bridge, town-hall, 672; old-hall, 672-673; ancient history, 673; eminent natives, 675-674; Castle-Hills, 674.  
 Gainsborough, Wm. de, anecdotes of, 674.  
 Garendon, seat, Lei. abbey, 404.  
 GARTRE, Hundred, Lei. 423 to 438; townships and livings in, 424-425.  
 Gartre Wapentake, Lin. 706-712.  
 GARTANG, town, Lan. manufactories in the vicinity, 113-114; remains of *Greenhaugh Castle*, 114.  
 Gawthorp, seat, Lan. 172.  
 Gedney, village, Lin. church, monument, 739.  
 Gedney chapelry, Roman antiquities at, 740.  
 Gillebrand-Hall, seat, Lan. 174.  
 Girsby, seat, Lin. 704.  
 GLANFORD BRIDGE or B2166, town, Lin. 680.  
 Gleaston-Castle, Lan. remains of, 90.  
 Goltho-Hall, seat, Lin. 705.  
 Gopsal-Hall, seat, Lei. pictures, &c. 485-486.  
 Grace-Dieu, nunnery and park, 378; Francis Beaumont, a native, 378-379.  
 Grantham Soke, Lin. 765.  
 GRANTHAM, town, Lin. ancient history, 766; Oliver Cromwell, 767; Cross, priory, ib; church, 768; monuments, font, 769; guild-hall, free-school, 770; Spaw, canal, 771.  
 Greenhaugh Castle, Lan. 114.  
 Grey, Lady Jane, memoirs of, 396-397.  
 GRIMSBY, town, Lin. ancient and present state, privileges, 689; churches, priory, 690; eminent natives, 691.

Grinthorpe



# INDEX.

Grimthorpe-Castle, seat, Lin. history, present state, park, abbey, 791.  
*Gumley*, village, Lei. *Gumley-Hall*, 435-436.  
**GUTHLAXTON**, Hundred, Lei. 458 to 470; townships and livings in, 459-460.

## H

Hagneby Abbey, Lin. 716.  
*Haigh-Hall*, seat, Lan. anecdotes of Lady Bradshaigh, 238.  
*Hainton*, village, Lin. 704.  
*Hainton-Hall*, seat, Lin. pictures, 704.  
*Hale-Hall*, seat, Lan. 214.  
*Hale*, child of, his gigantic stature, 215.  
*Hall*, Bp. anecdotes of, 376.  
**HALLATON**, town, Lin. 436; singular annual custom, 436-437; encampment, 437; church, 438.  
*Halton-Hall*, seat, Lan. 69.  
*Halton-Lodge*, seat, Lin. 705.  
*Hanbury*, Rev. Wm. memoirs of, 440-446.  
*Haugham*, Lin. remarkable hill and torrent at, 702.  
**HARBOROUGH**, town, Lei. situation, buildings, 426; Roman encampments, urns, 427; chapel, meetings, manufactories, 428; battle of Naseby, 428-431.  
*Harlaxton*, village, church, mansion, antiquities, 777.  
*Haslington canal*, Lan. 30.  
**HASLINGDEN**, town, Lan. situation, church, manufactures, etymology, 149; buildings, canals, mills, 150.  
*Haverholme Priory*, Lin. 760.  
**HAWKSHEAD**, town, Lan. its situation, church, buildings, 94. Archbishop Sandy's, a native, 95.  
**HAXEY**, town, Lin. 675; Castle, 676.  
*Heaton-House*, seat, Lan. situation of, 287.  
**HELENS**, St. town, Lan. copper-works, &c. 227, 228.  
*Henley*, John, orator, memoirs of, 494-498.  
*Heptarchy*, observations on the history of the, 142, n.  
*Hestbank Sands*, Lan. 69; melancholy accident at, 70.  
*Heynings*, a Cistercian Nunnery, 675.  
**HINCKLEY**, town, Lei. castle, priory, 473; divisions, civil government, stocking manufacture, 474; church, dates, and dimensions of, 475;

chapels, Holy Well, mineral waters, 476.  
*Hill Wapentake*, Lin. 713-715.  
*Hoghton-Tower*, Lan. ruins of, 124.  
**HOLEEACH**, town, Lin. hospital, 736; schools, cross, church, monuments, 737; memoirs of Dr. Stukeley, a native, 737-739.  
*Holker-Hall*, seat, Lan. park, pictures, 75.  
**HOLLAND**, a Division of Lincolnshire, 724-731.  
*Holland*, village, Lan. 239; family of, ib.  
*Holme*, seat, Lan. woods, ancient chantry, re-endowment, 146; superstition, peculiar disease in beasts, and supposed means of preventing its progress, 147; memoirs of Rev. William Whitaker a native, 147, 148.  
*Holt*, hamlet, Lei. mineral-water, 451.  
*Honington*, village, Lin. Roman camp, 764.  
*Horkstow*, village, Lin. Roman pavement, &c. at, 681.  
**HORNBY**, a small town, Lan. manufactures, priory, castle, church, 98, 99.  
*Horncastle Soke*, Lin. 712, 713.  
**HORNCASTLE**, town, Lin. a Roman station, 712, 713.  
*Horninghold*, village, Lei. church, 439.  
*Hulme-Hall*, ancient seat, Lan. 285; successive possessors, 286.  
*Huntroyd*, seat, Lan. 172.

## I, J

*Jewry-Wall*, description of, 335, 336.  
*Ince Blundel*, seat, Lan. described; its fine collection of marble antiquities, &c. 308 to 312.  
**INSCRIPTIONS** at Lancaster, 53, 64; at Colne, 139; at Great Mitton, 165; at Knowsley, 229; near Wigan, 242; at Manchester, 253, 254; on a Millary, 334, 335; at Stapleford, 499; at Stow, 667; at Spital, 670.  
*Ingoldsby*, village, Lin. encampment at, 764.  
*Johnson*, Maurice, antiquary, account of 744.  
*Iron Mines*, 81.  
*Irwell*, river in Lancashire, 22.  
 3 G 3 Kegworth,



# INDEX.

## K

- Kegworth, town, Lei. charter, school, church, 405.  
**KESTEVEN** Division, Lin. 751-808.  
*Kidworth*, village, Lei. encampment, barrow, school, church, 439, 440.  
*Kirkby-Hall*, seat, Lei. 487.  
*Kirkby*, De Bp. memoirs of, 492.  
*Kirby*, Muxloe, chapelry, do. old mansion, ib.  
**KIRKHAM**, small town, Lan. 117, 118.  
*Kirkland Hall*, seat, 115.  
*Kirkstead*, village, Lin. abbey, memoirs of Hugh Kirkstead, 708.  
*Kirton*, wapentake, Lin. 732-736.  
*Kirton*, village, Lin. 735; church, font, 736.  
*Knaith*, village, Lin. 661; memoirs of Thomas Sutton, 662.  
*Knaptoft*, village, Lei. encampment, 465.  
**Knowsley**, seat, Lan. park, mansion, 228; singular inscription, 229; portraits and anecdotes of the first eight Earls of Derby, Margaret Countess of Richmond, and Charlotte Countess of Derby, 229-234; pictures, 235.  
**Kyme**, priory, Lin. anecdote of Sir Gilbert Talbois, 760.

## L

- LANCASHIRE**, general description, history, topography, and local beauties of, 5 to 312; ancient inhabitants, 5; conquest by the Romans, 7; Roman stations and roads, 7-9; divisions and subdivisions, 10; ecclesiastical history, 11; forests, 12; honour, 14; duchy, county palatine, 15, 16; soil, surface, 17; mineralogy, 18; rivers, 20-22; canals, 23-33; mosses, 38-42; agriculture, 42; horned cattle, 43; population, 45-47; representation in parliament, castles, religious houses, 48; bridges, roads, 49, 50; boundaries and dimensions, 51.  
**Lancaster canal**, description of, 30-33.  
**LANCASTER**, county town of Lancashire, Roman History of, stations, antiquities, coins, 51-54; Saxon history, 55, 56; castle, history, description and dimensions of, 47-63; parish church, monuments,

- 63, 64; situation, public buildings, shambles, bridge, theatre, almshouses, schools, 64-66; manufactures, trade, custom house, town-hall, 66; parliamentary representation, corporation, 67; salt-marsh, ib.; inland navigation, aqueduct-bridge, 68.  
**Lancaster**, duchy of, grant, descent, &c. of, 15, 57, 130, 131.  
**Langley Hall**, seat, Lei. an ancient priory, 406.  
**Langoe wapentake**, Lin. 755-757.  
**Langton**, district, Lei. 440-448, comprehending Church Langton, Memoirs of the Rev. Wm. Hanbury, 440-446; West Langton, church, chapels, 446, 447; memoirs of Walter de Langton, a native, 447, 448; East Langton, memoirs of Thomas Staveley, a native, 448.  
**Langton**, Walter de, memoirs of, 447, 448.  
**Langton**, village, Lin. barrows, 714.  
 ——— family, anecdotes of, ib.  
**Lathom-House**, seat, Lan. 220; heroic defence of by Charlotte countess of Derby, 221; description of the house, 221, 222.  
**Lathom**, township, Lan. 225.  
**Laund**, priory, Lei. memoirs of Thomas Cromwell, 414; mansion, chapel, monument, 416.  
**Lawress wapentake**, Lin. 656-660.  
**LEICESTER**, its Roman history, names, 330; Roman antiquities, 332, 333; millary, 333, 334; Jewry-wall, 335, 336; ancient bishop's see, 337, 338; history of the town, 338-342; Domesday records respecting it, 339, castle, 340-342; Newark, buildings of, 342, 343; abbey, death of Cardinal Wolsey, 344; mint, series of coinage, 345; charters, 346, 347; parliamentary history, 347, 348; churches, St. Nicholas, 348; St. Mary, 349, 350; ancient hall, 351; All Saints church, 351, 352; St. Martin's, 352-358; curious parochial entries, 355; royal touching for the evil, 356; St. Margaret's, 358; chapels, gaols, 359; schools, 359, 360; hospitals, exchange, hotel, theatre, 360; New-walk, King Richard's bedstead, 361; stocking manufacture, origin, and extent of, 362-364; Dr. Farmer, a native, 364.  
**LEICESTERSHIRE**, general description,

# INDEX.

- scription, history, topography, and local beauties of, 313 to 522; situation, boundaries, 313; Roman roads and stations, 315-316; ancient lordships, townships, and castles, with their founders, 317; abbeys, priories, nunneries, with their respective founders, 318; hundreds, ecclesiastical divisions, 319; population, 320; rivers, 321, 322; canals, 322, 323; soil and natural characteristics, 323, 324; sheep and cattle, high prices of, 325; manufactures and produce, 326; Stilton cheese, process of making, 327; Charnwood forest and hills, 328, 329; extent of the county, 329.
- Leeds and Liverpool canal, description of, 33.
- LEIGH, town, Lan. vicarage, dairies, 240; manufactories, 241.
- Leven Sands, description of, 76, 77.
- Lever, Sir Ashton, anecdotes of, 286.
- Leverian Museum, commencement, exhibition, and disposal of, 286.
- Leyland, hundred, Lan. 172-178.
- township, Lan. population, church, 178.
- LINCOLN, city, situation, suburbs, etymology, 593; description of a Roman station, 594; Roman roads, and stations connected with it, 595, n.; Roman antiquities, 596-602; historical account of the city, 602-613; diocese, 613, 614; bishops, 615-627; cathedral, 627-641; its situation and beauty, 627; history, 628-630; dimensions, 630, 631; architecture, 631-635; monuments, 635-639; cloisters, chapter house, 639; library, officers, 640. Churches: St. Bennet's, 642; St. Mary de Wigford, St. Peter's at Gowts, 643, 644; St. Martin's, 644; parishes, population, trade, 644; privileges, representation, 645; corporation, 645, 646; castle, 647, 648; mint wall, 648; Chequer gate, *ib.*; Lucy tower, St. Giles's hole, Priory, 649; Grey Friars, Deanry, vicar's college, 650; bishop's palace, 651; John of Gaunt's palace, Jew's house, 652; Stonebow gateway, High bridge, market-house, grammar schools, Blue-coat school, 653; county hospital, house of industry, county gaol, 654; city gaol, assembly room, theatre, 655; Dr. Willis, a native, 655, 656.
- Lincoln cathedral, its situation and beauty, 627; history and successive improvements, 628-630; parts and dimensions, 630, 631; architecture, 631-635; western front, 631; transept and choir, 632; nave and central tower, 633; windows, chapels, 634; riches, 635; monuments, 635-639; cloisters, chapter house, 639; library, Roman urn, officers, 640.
- , diocese of, 613, 614.
- , bishops of, chronological account of, 615-627.
- LINCOLNSHIRE, general description, history, topography, and local beauties of, 523 to 808; ancient inhabitants and limits, 524; Roman roads and stations, 524, 525; Car-dyke, Roman canal, 526; Anglo-Saxon history, 527, 532; Danish incursions and barbarities, 529-531; improvements under Alfred, 531; lords and manors, 532; encampments and castles, 533; diocese and see, 535, 534, 613-627; archdeaconries, deaneries, and parishes, 535; monasteries and hospitals, 536-538; ecclesiastical architecture, 539-542; seats, 542-545; geographical features, natural characteristics, and agricultural practices, 545-556; horses, neat cattle, 549; sheep, 550; rabbits, 551, 552; geese, 553; fens, rivers, draining, &c., 556-588; political character, 588; wapentakes, hundreds, population, 589, 590; maintenance of the poor, 591.
- Lindley-hall, seat, Lei. 482; William and Robert Burton, natives, 482-484.
- LINDSEY, a division of Lincolnshire, 591-724.
- Lilly, William, anecdotes of, 402-404.
- LIVERPOOL, town, Lan. rapid advance of, 179, 180; observations on etymology, 180; ancient history, 181, 183; charters, 182, 184; acts of parliament, 185, 186; corporate government, 187; causes of the present prosperity of the town, 188; docks, 189; dimensions, 190; comparison with those of London, *ib.*; officers, regulations, &c. 190-192; dock duties, 3 G 4



# INDEX.

progressive increase of, 192; current expenditure, 193; table of the quantity and qualities of merchandize imported, 194; list of ships entered inwards and cleared outwards, 195; commerce of Bristol and Liverpool compared, and the peculiar local advantages of each port, 196; observation on the slave trade, 197, 198; table of the progressive increase of the slave trade in the last century, 199; public structures, 199-208; Liverpool exchange, 200; town-hall, 201; corn-exchange, custom-house, 202; churches—St. Nicholas, St. Peter, 202; St. George, St. Thomas, 203; St. Paul, St. Ann, St. John, Trinity, 204; Christ, St. Mark, Welsh and Scotch, 205; Blue-coat hospital, infirmary, 206; poor-house, ladies charity, theatre, 206; Athenæum, Lyceum, news-rooms, music-hall, assembly-rooms, botanic-garden, 207, 208; boundaries and extent of borough, streets, buildings, 208; population, 209; income and debts of the corporation, parliamentary representation, 210; military history, *ib.*; town besieged in civil war, 211; situation of Liverpool, extent and boundaries of the town and suburbs, 212; eminent natives, *ib.*

Lockington Hall, seat, Lei. 405.

Lodington, village, Lei. 416.

Lodington Hall, seat, ditto, 416; wells, Roman remains, 417.

Lonsdale, hundred, Lan. 51-105.

Lose-Coat Field, battle of, 611.

Lostock Hall, ancient seat, Lan. 298.

LOUTHBOROUGH, large town, Lei. 371; court-chamber, manufactures, canal, 372; peculiar disease, schools, church, chapels, 373; Dr. Richard Pulteney, a native, 520, 521.

LOUTH, town, Lin. situation, scenery, 695; religious houses, free-schools, 696; churches, St. James's, architecture, date of building, costs, dimensions, 696-698; vicarage-house, hermitage, St. Mary's church, 698; meetings, charters, town-hall, assembly-room, theatre, manufactories, 699; canal, remarkable springs, 700.

Louth Park Abbey, its foundation, &c. 701.

Louth Eske wapentake, Lin. 698-703.

Lovedon wapentake, Lin. 761-763.

Loyne, or Lane, river, Lan. 20.

Lubbenham, village, encampment, 448, 449.

Ludborough wapentake, Lin. 692.

Ludford, village, Lin. 703.

LUTTERWORTH, town, Lei. peculiar ancient vassalage, 466; cotton-manufacture, 467; hospital, church, John Wickliffe, 468.

## M

Makerel, Dr. or Captain Cobler, anecdotes of, 657, 695.

Malkin Tower, Lan. 134.

MANCHESTER, town, Lan. proofs of a Roman station at, 251; view of the present state of the town, *ib.*; ancient history, and antiquities, 252; inscriptions, and observation on, 253, 254; Roman roads, *ib.*; Roman summer camp, described by Mr. Whitaker, 254-256; history of the town under the Saxons and Normans, charters, 256; successive barons, 256, 257; college founded, its establishment and endowments, 257, 258; wardens who obtained the episcopal honors, 259, *n.*; Bishop Oldham's grammar-school, its endowment, &c. 260; college buildings, 260; books, 261; Humphrey Chetham, school founded by him, 261-263, *n.*; collegiate church described, its monuments and ornaments, 262-264; military history of the town, pestilences, acts of parliament for building churches, and for other improvements, 265, 266; public buildings; infirmary, dispensary, lunatic hospital, asylum, poor-house, Sunday-schools, 266; public baths, lying-in hospital, house of recovery, strangers' friend society, borough-reeve's charity, 267; literary and philosophical society, philological society, circulating libraries, portico, 268; agricultural society, repository, theatre, assembly-rooms, 269; concert-rooms, new bailey prison, barracks, 270; civil government, sessions, courts, 270, 271; manufactures, 272, 273; rise and



# INDEX

- and progress of cotton manufactures, 274; machines for spinning, 275; persons employed, 276; invention of, and successive improvements in, spinning engines, 277, 278; Sir Richard Arkwright's machines, their great effect, and extensive adoption, 278; his patent contested, the trade laid open, 279; beneficial consequences, 280; mode of carding and roaving cotton, 281; abridgement of labour in, and the magnitude of, cotton manufactures, 282; Manchester commercial building, population, 283; eminent natives, 284.
- Mancunium*, a Roman station, 287.
- Manchester, Bolton, and Bury canal, description of, 35.
- Manley, wapentake, Lin. 675-680.
- Markland, Jeremiah, anecdotes of, 239.
- Marlborough, Sarah, duchess of, 702.
- Martin-Meer, Lan. mode of draining, &c. 224, 225.
- Meadows, seat, Lan. 238.
- Medbourn*, village, Lei. Roman station, pavement, 450.
- Melton, De, Abp. memoirs of, 494.
- MELTONMOWBRAY, town, Lei. 490; ancient and recent possessors of the lordship, 491; battle at, tradesmen's tokens, manor oven, 492; church, 492, 493; schools, 494; eminent natives, viz. Bp. de Kirkby, Abp. De Melton, 494; Orator Henley, 494-498.
- Milliary, or Roman mile-stone, inscriptions on, 333-335.
- Mint, at Leicester, succession of coinage at, 345.
- Misterton Hall, seat, Lei. 469.
- MIDDLETON, town, Lan. church, school, 290, 291.
- Mitton, Little, hamlet, Lan. manor-house, sculptures, 164.
- Mitton, Great*, village, Lan. church, monuments, singular inscription, 165, 166.
- Monasteries, &c. in Lincolnshire: name, order, date of foundation, grantees, and situation of, 536-538.
- MONUMENTS and TOMBS: of Bishop Remigius, Bishop Bloet, 636; Catherine Duchess of Lancaster, Joan Countess of Westmoreland, Elinor, Queen of Edward I. 637; Batholomew Lord Burghersh, 638; John Lord Welles, 639; Sir Thomas Grantham, 644; Lady Margaret Wylughby, 722; Sir John Lockton, 734; Carr family, 759; Chief Baron Bury, Chief Justice Ryder, William Cust, 769; of the Bertie family, 781; Richard Cecil; Earl and Countess of Exeter, 806; of the Huntingdon family, 376; Henry Lord Grey, 396; Sir William Skipwith, 417; Kenelm Digby, Esq. and lady, 438, 439; Sir Arthur Hesilrige and two wives, Sir Thomas Hesilrige and wife, 453; Sir Richard Halford, 458; first Earl of Harborough, 499; William Lord Sherrard, 500; first eight Earls of Rutland, 501-534.
- Monson family, anecdotes of, 657, 658.
- Morecambe-bay, 71.
- Morleyes Hall, ancient seat, Lan. remains of, 242, n.
- Moor Tower, Lin. 708.
- MOUNTSORELL, town, Lei. 365; castle, ancient history of, 365, 366; Charley-forest stones, 367; cross, chapels, *ib.*
- Mule, a machine so called, 282.
- Muslins, first made in England in 1781, 280.
- Myerscough, forest, Lan. 13.
- Myerscough House, seat, Lan. 115.

## N

- Naseby, battle of, 428-431.
- Ness Wapentake, Lin. 791-808.
- Newark, in Leicester, buildings of, 342, 343.
- NEWTON, small town, Lan. situation of, 242; ancient lords of, parliamentary representation, subterraneous passages, battle at, 243.
- Nocton Park, seat, Lin. priory, 756.
- Norton, village, Lei. church, 451.
- Norton Disney, village, Lin. church, inscriptions, 754.
- Norton Place, seat, Lin. 670.
- Noseley*, village, Lei. hall, portraits, pictures, 452; church and monuments, 452, 453.
- NUNNERY, Grace-dieu, Lei. 377.
- NUNNERIES, at Torksey, 661; at Heynings, 675.

*Oadby,*

# INDEX.

## O

- Oadby*, village, Lei. 469.  
*OLDHAM*, small town, Lan. 289.  
*Ormerod House*, seat, Lan. 148.  
*ORMSKIRK*, town, Lan. manufactures, church, monuments, 213, 219.  
*Osbaston Hall*, seat, Lei. 488.  
*Oswald*, king of Northumberland, place of the death of, 244; opinion of Camden and others refuted, *ib.*  
*Ouston*, village, Lei. abbey, 454.  
*Overborough*, village, Lan. the Roman *Bremetonacae*, proofs of its having been a Roman station, encampments, pavements, altar, roads, 101, 102.  
*Oxford Hall*, seat, Lan. anecdotes of John Blackburne, Esq. 243.

## P

- Palmer*, John, singular circumstance of his death, 207.  
*Panton House*, seat, Lin. portraits, 705.  
*Papillon Hall*, seat, Lei. 449, 450.  
*Pendle Hill*, Lan. peculiar soils of, 133, 134.  
*Penwortham*, priory, Lan. 113.  
*Percival*, Dr. anecdotes of, 249.  
*Pickwell*, village, Lei. Rev. William Cave, a native, 454.  
*PICTURES*: at Stannton Harold, 382; at Donnington Park, 400, 401; at Skeffington Hall, 420; at Noseley, 452; at Gopsal Hall, 485, 486; at Belvoir Castle, 515, 518; at Holker Hall, 75, 76; at Ashton Hall, 104; at Adlington Hall, 176; at Knowsley, 229-235; at Ince Blundel, 312.  
*Pilling-moss*, Lan. phenomenon at, 115.  
*Pinchbeck*, village, Lin. mansion, coin, 744.  
*Plate glass*, manufactory of, 227.  
*Ponton*, *Great and Little*, villages, Lin. church, 778.  
*POON* of Leicestershire, number of, maintenance of, and expenditure on account of, 518-520.  
*PORTRAITS*: Duchess of Cleveland, Admiral Penn, Sir James Lowther, Thomas Wriothesley Earl of Southampton, 75; Vandyck, Lord Richard Cavendish, Sir Thomas Riston, 76; Duke of Hamilton and family, 104; Lord Widdrington, 145;

- Jean de Parem, Edward Parker, Esq. 170; Archbishop Laud, Neil Gwyn 176; Margaret Countess of Richmond, 230; Charlotte Countess of Derby, 234; first eight Earls of Derby, 229-234; Sir Robert Shirley, King Charles II. King Charles's beauties, Mr. Burdett, 382; James I. and his Queen, 395; King Edward IV. Duke of Clarence, 399; Cardinal Pole, Duke of Suffolk, Earl of Leicester, Jane Shore, Duchess of Hainault, nine Earls of Huntingdon, Henry Lord Loughborough, Dr. Harvey, Sir Daniel Hinslow, Sir Thomas Wyatt, Sir John Chardin, Sir Godfrey Kneller, W. Prynne, Alexander Pope, Edmund Waller, Samuel Butler, Duke of Berwick, Robert Boyle, Dean Swift, Duke of Buckingham, Earl of Northumberland, Earl of Derby, Earl of Warwick, Earl of Leicester, 400; Jane Shore, Sir Christopher Packe, Sir Gervas Clifton, Sir James Houblon, 417; Earl of Holland, Pope Paul III. Charles II. General Monk, Charles I. Henry VIII. James I. William III. Queen Anne, 420; Sir Geoffrey Palmer, 434; Peter the Great, Sir Arthur Hesilrige, Duke of Buckingham, Earl of Holland, King Charles I. and his Queen, Oliver Cromwell, 452; Charles I. and II. 457; Handel, 485; John Marquis of Granby, 516; Earl of Mansfield, Lord Robert Manners, Sir Joshua Reynolds, General Oglethorpe, Earls of Chatham, Kitty Fisher, Dukes of Rutland, Henry VIII. Lord Chaworth, Sir Isaac Newton. Duke of Monmouth, Charles I. Lord George Cavendish, 517; Sir Thomas Heneage, 704; Sir Robert Cecil, Sir C. Turner, 705.  
*POULTON*, small town, Lan. 116.  
*PRESCOT*, town, Lan. situation of, collieries, manufactories, 226.  
*PRESTON*, borough town, Lan. situation, 106; representation, corporation, 107; church, chapels, military history, rebellion, 108; ceremonial of the *guild-merchant*, 109-111; buildings, markets, town-hall, 112.  
*Prestwich*, parish, Lan. 288.  
*Prestwold*,



## INDEX.

Prestwold Hall, seat, Lei. 417; portraits, monument, 417.  
**PRIORIES**, Laund, 414; Bradley, 431; at Torksey, 660; near Epworth, 676, 677; at Thorneham, 680; at Elsham, 681; at Croxhill, 684; at Covenham, 692; at Spalding, 741; at Nocton Park, 756; at Catteley, 757; at Temple Bruer, 757; at Kyme 760; at Haverholme, 760; Stamford, 797.

### Q

Quack Doctors, character of, 301, 302.  
 Quenby Hall, seat, Lei. 413, 414.  
 Quernmore, forest, Lan. 12.  
 Quorndon, large village, Lei. 371.  
 Quorndon Hall, seat, Lei. 371.

### R

*Radcliffe on the Wreke*, village, Lei. Shipley hill, a tumulus, observations on, 417, 418.  
*Rakedale*, village, Lei. mansion, 418.  
*Rakedale Hall*, seat, Lei. cross, 419.  
*Rampside*, village, Lan. bathing-place, adjacent islands, 91.  
*Ravenhead*, plate glass works at, 227.  
**RASIN MARKET**, town, Lin. church, meetings, 693.  
*Rasin Middle*, village, Lin. churches, priory, dragon slayers defined, 693, 694.  
*Ratæ*, Roman station, 313-330, 331.  
*Ratby*, village, Lei. entrenchment, 487.  
*Rennie*, Mr. his mode of drainage, 582-586.  
*Revesby Abbey*, Lin. foundation, endowment, seat, encampment, 722, 723.  
*Ribble*, river, Lan. 21; beautiful scenery on its banks, 126.  
*Ribchester*, village, Lan. once a military Roman station, 150; Roman antiquities, 151, 152; course of the Watling-street Road, 152.  
*Richard of Cirencester*, remarks on the authority of, 7, n.  
*Richard III's Bedstead*, preserved at Lei. 361.  
*Richmond*, Margaret Countess of, portrait and anecdotes of, 230.

Riding the black lad, custom of, 306.  
*Rivington*, village, Lan. hill, grammar school, 174.  
 Rivers in Lan. 20-22.  
 Rivers in Lei. 321, 322.  
 Rivers in Lin. 560-562.  
*Rochdale*, canal, Lan. 36.  
**ROCHDALE**, parish and town, Lan. population of, 298; vicarage of, 298; grammar-school, 299.  
*Ropsley*, village, Lin. memoirs of Bishop Fox, a native, 764, 765.  
**ROMAN ANTIQUITIES** at Leicester, 332-337; at Rothley, 406; at Waulip, 408; at Harborough, 427; at Burrow, 431-433; at Catthorpe, 460.  
**ROMAN STATIONS, ROADS, and ANTIQUITIES**, in Lancashire, 7-9; at Lancaster, 51-54; at Overborough, 101, 102; at Colne, 139; at Cliveiger, 146; at Ribchester, 150, 151; at Warrington, 245; at Manchester, 251-256.  
**ROMAN STATIONS, ROADS, and ANTIQUITIES**, in Lincolnshire, 524-526; at Lincoln, 594-602-640; at Scampton, 653, at Torksey, 660; at Stow, 666; near Gainsborough, 674; at Aukborough, 677; at Winterton, 678, 679; at Horkstow, 681; at Castor, 683; at Horncastle, 713; at Well, 716; at Gedney Hill, 740; at Whaplode, 740; at Pinchbeck, 744; at Sleaford, 758; at Aucasster, 761; at Little Ponton, 764; at Denton, 773.  
**ROMAN ROADS and STATIONS**, in Leicestershire, 313-316; in Leicester, 330, 331; at Medbourn, 450; near Catthorpe, 460.  
 Roman Stations, remarks on, 55, n.  
*Romney*, George, memoirs of, 83, 84.  
*Rostall Hall*, seat, Lan. 147.  
*Rothley*, village, Lei. manor, peculiar privileges, Roman pavement, 406; church, cross, 407.  
*Rufford Hall*, seat, Lan. 223.  
*Royton Hall*, seat, Lan. 289.

### S

*Saddleworth*, chapel, Lan. 229.  
*Saddington*, village, Lei. minerals, 455.  
 Saints, isle of, —England, why so called, 641.

Sankey



# INDEX.

- Sankey Canal, Lan. description of, 24.
- Salesbury Hall, Lan. birth place of Thomas Talbot, topographer, 171, 172.
- Salford Hundred, Lan. 240 to 308; extent and population, 250.
- Salt Way, Roman road, 316-525.
- Samlesbury, manor, Lan. house, sculptures 171.
- Sands Hestbank, Lan. description of, 69; distressing accident at, 70.
- Sands Leven, scenery of, 76, 77.
- Sandys, Edwin, Archbishop, anecdotes of, 95.
- Scarisbrick Hall, seat, Lan. 224.
- Scampton, village, Lin. 658; Roman villa, 658; manor, church, 659.
- Scampton Hall, seat, Lin. 659.
- Scraptoft, village, Lei. cross, 455.
- Scraptoft Hall, seat, Lei. 455.
- Scrivelsby, Lin. manor of the Dymocks, 707.
- Seats in Lincolnshire, with the names of the owners, 542-545.
- Sefton, parish, Lan. church, monuments, 217.
- Segh, a species of deer, formerly an inhabitant of Furness Fells, 97.
- Sempringham, village and priory of, Lin. 786.
- Sempringham, Sir Gilbert, memoirs of, 786.
- Serantii, Segantii, or Sistuntii, ancient inhabitants of Leicestershire, 5.
- Shaw Hall, seat, Lan. 178.
- Shearsby, village, Lei. salt spring, 466.
- Sheep and Cattle, varieties of, 324; high prices of, 325; Mr. Bakewell's mode of breeding, 384-392.
- Shepeshed, village, Lei. stocking manufactory, cross, 408.
- Sherburne, Sir Nicholas, singular inscription in memory of, 165.
- Sidnacester, conjectures respecting the ancient city of, 337-662.
- Sidnacester, See and Bishops of, 534.
- Sileby, village, Lei. mansions, schools, church, 423.
- Simpson, Thomas, mathematician, memoirs of, 477, 478.
- Sixhill Abbey, Lin. 704.
- Skeffington, village, Lei. lands, woods, 419.
- Skeffington Hall, seat, Lei. 419; pictures, church, painted glass, 420; Bishop Sheffington, a native, 421.
- Skirkbeck Wapentake, Lin. 726-732.
- Slave Trade, observations on, 197.
- SLEAFORD, town, Lin. situation of, Roman Antiquities at, 758; castle, church, monuments, school, hospital, 760.
- Smedley Hall, seat, Lan. 287.
- Smithill's Hall, seat, Lan. chapel, carvings, 296, 297.
- Soar, river, Lei. 321.
- Somerton Castle, John, King of France, imprisoned, dimensions of, 754.
- South Carlton, village, Lin. 657.
- South Croxton, village, Lei. 412.
- South Ormsby, Lin. encampment, seat, 714, 715.
- Southport, Lan. bathing-place, 225.
- SPALDING, town, Lin. situation, 740; ancient history, priory, causeway, 741; church, schools, court house, 742; trade, literary societies, 743; Maurice Johnson, a native, 744.
- SPARKENHOE, hundred, Lei. 470 to 488; townships and livings in, 471, 472.
- Speke Hall, seat, Lan. ancient carved mantle piece at, 213.
- SPILSBY, town, Lin. buildings, cross, 720; town-hall, school, church, 721; monument, 722.
- Spital in the Street, Lin. hospital, chapel, inscriptions, 670.
- Staley Bridge, Lan. 307.
- STAMFORD, town, Lin. ancient history, castle, religious houses, churches, St. Michael's, St. Mary's, St. George's, All Saints, St. John's, university, schools, hospitals, corporation, charter, town-hall, population, 793 to 808.
- Stamford Baron, parish, castle, monastery, hospital, church, monuments, law of Borough English, custom of bull-running, 804 to 808.
- Stapleford, village, Lei. mansion, church, monuments, 499, 500.
- Stapleford Hall, seat, Lei. curious architecture, sculpture, 499, 500.
- Stanford Hall, seat, Lei. 461; anecdotes of Sir Thomas Cave, mansion, monuments, 462.
- Standish, township, Lan. 174; church, monuments,

# INDEX.

monuments, Roman coins and antiquities, population, 175.  
 Standish, family, memoirs of, 174.  
 Statues, at Ince-Bimundel, 309, 310.  
 Staunton, village, Lei. Bishop Wyvile, a native, 455; church, monuments, 456.  
 Stannton Harold, seat, Lei. mansion, library, bugle-horn, 381; pictures, portraits, park, church, monuments, 382.  
 Staveley, Thomas, anecdotes of, 448.  
 Stede, ancient chapel of, 153; monument, 154.  
 Stilton Cheese, process of making, 327.  
 Stoke Rochford, village, Lin. church, monuments, 778.  
 Stonyhurst, seat, Lan. 154.  
 Stow, village, Lin. the ancient Sidnacester, 666; church, 667; inscriptions, 667, 668; clock, font, 668; ancient palace, 669.  
 Stretton Magna, hamlet, Lei. 435.  
 Stubbs, George, painter, anecdotes of, 212.  
 Stubble, seat, Lan. old house, 301.  
 Stukeley, Dr. William, antiquary, memoirs of 737-739.  
 Sudbrooke Holme, seat, Lin. 657.  
 Summer Castle, seat, Lin. 670.  
 Superstition, singular instance of, 512.  
 Swartmoor-Hall, seat, Lan. anecdotes of Judge Fell and George Fox, 79, 80.  
 Swat, a peculiar disease at Loughborough, Lei. 372.  
 Swayne, King of Denmark, stabbed at Gainsborough, 673.  
 SWINEHEAD, town, Lin. 733; circumstances of King John's death, abbey, seat, church, monument, 734.  
 Swinford, village, Lei. church, font, 461.  
 Syston, village, Lei. bridge, 421; singular parish register, church, 422; tumulus, 423.

## T

Tathwell, seat, Lin. Barrows, 702.  
 TATTERSHALL, town, Lin. ancient history, 709; castle described, 710; church, paintings, 711.

Temple Belwood, seat, Lin. 677.  
 Temple Bruer, Lin. ruins of an ancient preceptory, church, cross, 757, 758.  
 Tessellated pavements, Lin. 678, 679.  
 Trovulfigacæstre, site of determined, 661.  
 Thoresby, seat, Lin. 716.  
 Thornton Abbey, Lin. its ancient history and magnificence, architecture, church, chapter-house, 684, 685.  
 Townley-Hall, seat, Lan. antiquity of, woods, 144, 145.  
 Tooley Park, Lei. 486.  
 Thurcaston, village, Lei. Bp. Latimer a native, 407.  
 Thurgunby, seat, Lin. 694.  
 Thuroham-Hall, seat, Lan. 105.  
 Turksey, village, Lin. 660; Roman villa, ib; castle, priories, churches, charters, 661.  
 Trafford-House, seat, Lan. 287.  
 Trent, river, Lin. 560.  
 Triangular Bridge, Croyland, Lin. 749.  
 Turton-Tower, Lan. chapel, 297.  
 Tyldesley, hamlet, Lan. 241; increased population, 242.  
 Tyldesley, Sir Thomas, pillar and inscription to the memory of, 242.

## V, U

Vernometum, Roman station, 313.  
 Via Devana, Roman road, 313, 316.  
 ULVERSTON town, Lan. trade manufactures, 77; buildings, cross, church, canal, population, 78.  
 Ulvescroft, priory, Lei. 408.  
 Urswick stone-walls, 91.

## W

Waddington, chapelry, Lan. almshouse, 166; Hall, Henry VI. taken at, 167.  
 Waddow-Hall, seat, Lan. scenery, 166.  
 WAINFLEET town, Lincolnshire, the Roman Vainona; Roman road, school, church, 718, 719.  
 —, Bp. anecdotes of, 719.  
 Walney, island, Lau. light-house, 91, 92.  
 Walshcroft

# INDEX.

- Walscroft Wapentake**, Lin. 692-694.  
**Walsh**, John, anecdote of, 691.  
**Walton**, village, Lan. 216.  
**Walton-Hall**, seat, Lan. 125.  
**Wanlip**, village, Lei. Roman pavement, 408.  
**Wanlip-Hall**, seat, Do. ib.  
**WASHINGTON**, town, Lan. situation of, 245; bridge, friary, charter, anecdotes of the Boteler's, 246; buildings, trade, manufactures, 247; military occurrences, 248.  
**Warping**, a peculiar mode of fertilizing soil, 387.  
**Watling-Street**, 152-313, 314.  
**Weever**, John, account of, 312.  
**Well**, village, Lin. barrows, church, 716.  
**Well Wapentake**, Lin. 660-669.  
**Welland**, river, Lei. 321; Do. Lin. 560.  
**West Derby**, Hundred, Lan. 178-249.  
**WEST GOSCOTE**, Hundred, Lei. 330 to 403; townships and livings in, 321, 322.  
**Whalley**, village, Lan. situation and great extent of, 155; history of the abbey, 155-158; chapels, 158; church described, 159; dimensions of the abbey, 160, 161; stone crosses, 163.  
**Whaplode** Lin. Roman sword found at, 740.  
**Whitgift**, Abp. memoirs of, 691.  
**Whittle-le-woods**, parish, Lan. Sir Jonas Moore, 176.  
**Wickliffe**, John, anecdotes of, 468.  
**Windermere**, Lake, Lan. 96.  
**WIGAN** town, Lan. situation of, 235; ancient and present state, representation, church, monuments, 236; town-hall, 237; townships, canal coal, 238; burning well, 240.  
**Wigston Magna**, village, Lei. 469; hospital, antiquities, 470.  
**Willingham-House**, seat, Lin. 694.  
**Willis**, Dr. memoirs of, 655.  
**Winnibriggs and Threo Wapentake**, Lin. 764, 765.  
**WINTERTON**, small town, Lin. the Roman Station Ad Abum, 678.  
**Wintwick**, village, Lan. rich rectory, church, ancient inscription, 244.  
**Wistow**, village, Lei. 456.  
**Wistow-Hall**, seat, Do. 456; memoirs of Sir Richard Halford, mansion, portraits, church, 457, 458.  
**Witham**, river, Lin. 560, 561.  
**Witton**, seat, Lan. 124.  
**Wood**, Mr. loyalty of, 241.  
**Woodfold**, seat, Lan. park, alum-mine, 123.  
**Worlaby**, seat, Lin. 681.  
**Woolthorpe**, village, Lin. coal discovered at, 765.  
**Woraley-Hall**, seat, Lan. 304.  
**WRAGBY** town, Lin. 704; charter, almshouse, chapel, school, 705.  
**Wraggoc Wapentake**, Lin. 703-706.  
**Wreke**, river, Lei. 322.  
**Wrightington-Hall**, seat, Lan. 175.  
**Wyer**, river, Lancashire, 21.  
**Wyersdale**, forest, Lan. 12.  
**Wyngall**, village, Lin. 707.

## Y

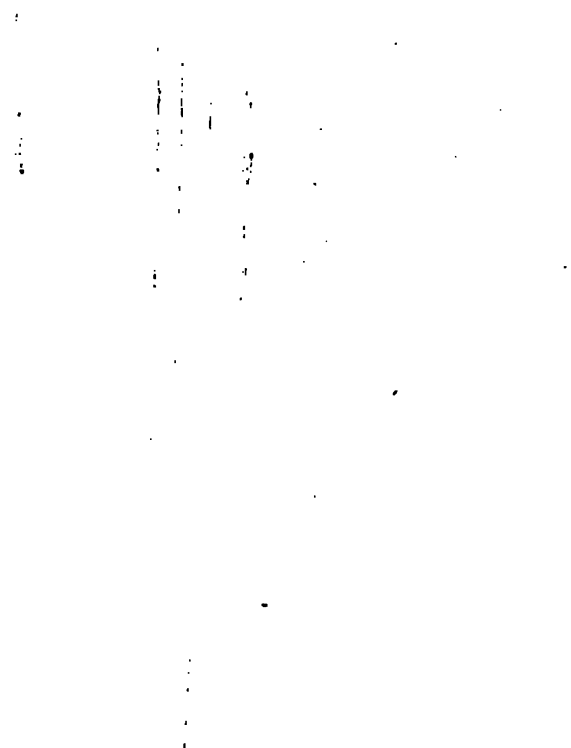
- Yarborough Camp**, Lin. 685.  
**Yarborough Wapentake**, Lin. 680-688.  
**Young**, Dr. Bp. of Clonfert, 300.



*CORRECTIONS, &c. to the PRECEDING VOLUME.*

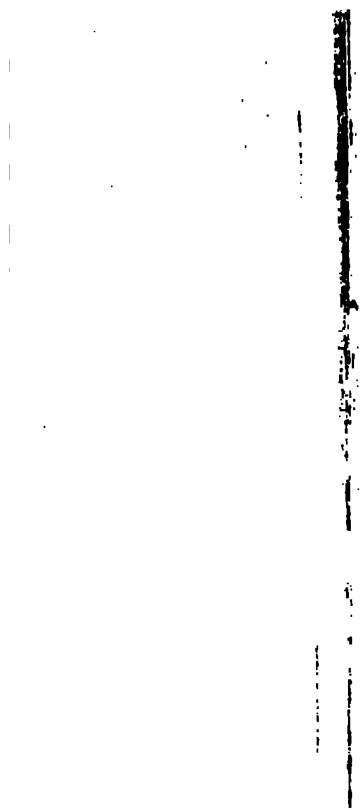
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| 13   | 16   | <i>for Mayerscough, read Myerscough.</i>                      |
| 19   | 23   | <i>for Comstone, read Conistone.</i>                          |
| 57   | 27   | <i>for third son, read fourth son.*</i>                       |
| 62   | 7    | <i>The picture by Northcote is placed in the Crown Court.</i> |
| 76   | 5    | <i>for RISTON, read PRESTON.</i>                              |
| 80   | 21   | <i>for Hampside, read Rampside.</i>                           |
| 117  | 20   | <i>for Rostall, read Rossall.</i>                             |
| 129  | 18   | <i>for Clithero castle, read Denbigh.</i>                     |
| 216  | 4    | <i>for Aidburgh, read Aigburgh.</i>                           |
| 236  | 25   | <i>for seventh, read seventeenth.</i>                         |
| —    | 34   | <i>for Hale, read Hall.</i>                                   |
| 237  | 20   | <i>for 1679, read 1697—and for 1651, read 1650.</i>           |
| 238  | 24   | <i>for Husband's father, read Husband.</i>                    |
| 241  | 10   | <i>for Hon. T. Powis, read Lord Lilford.</i>                  |
| 248  | 18   | <i>for Oxford, read Orford.</i>                               |
| —    | 20   | <i>for Father, read Grandfather.</i>                          |
| 286  | 15   | <i>for Alkington, read Alkington.</i>                         |
| 345  |      | <i>delete the note.</i>                                       |

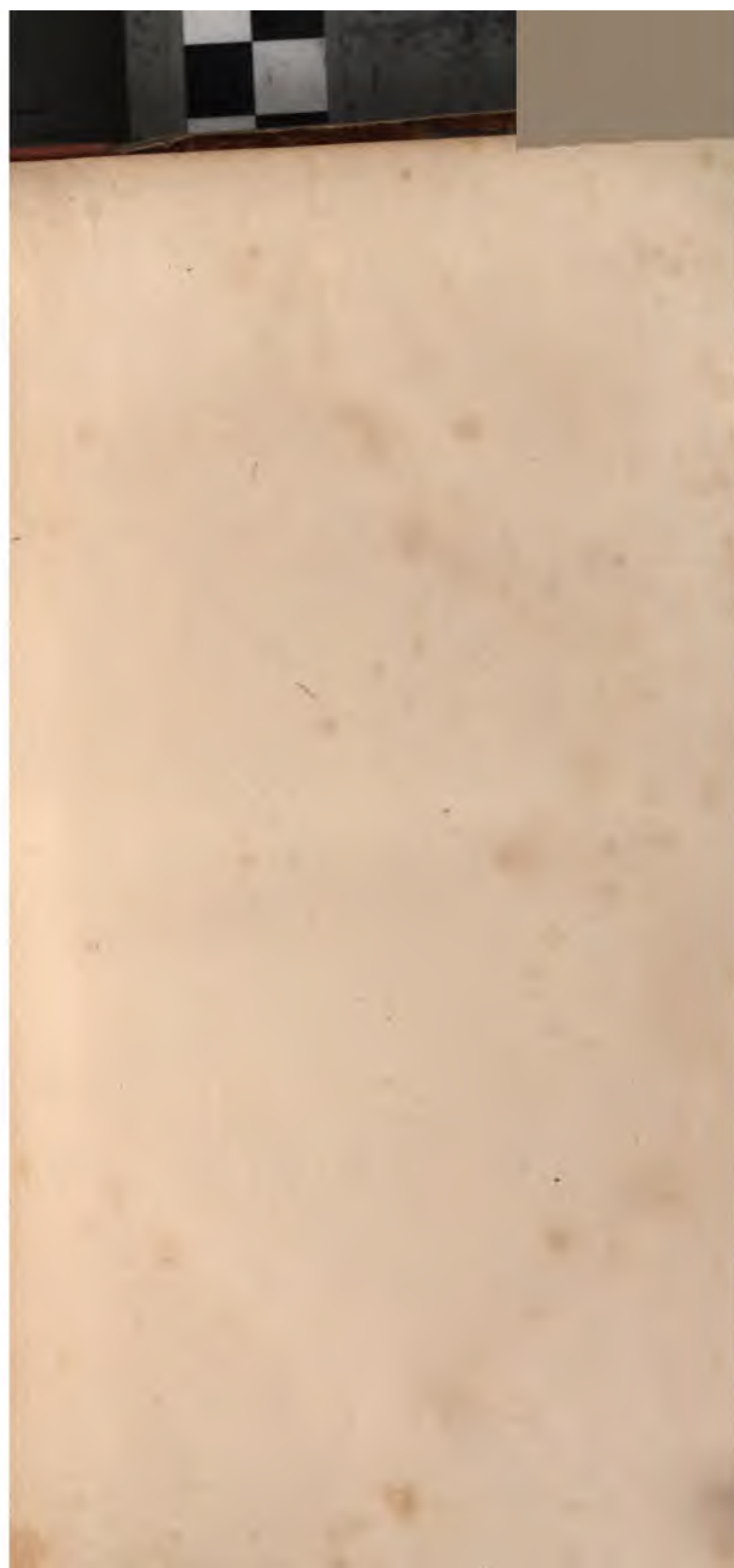
\* Following the authority of Godwin in his life of Chancer, who also follows several other writers, it was inadvertently stated, that John of Gaunt was the *third* son of Edward the Third; but it is evident from Sandford and the best authorities that John was the *fourth* son of that monarch.















Ralf de Gernons p. 605



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